

MPs demand compensation for victims in £180m scandal

Papers were shredded at Clowes HQ

By Lawrence Lever and Martin Fletcher

A former employee of Barlow Clowes has told *The Times* that documents and letters were deliberately shredded at the company's headquarters after Department of Trade and Industry inspectors moved into the crashed investment company last November.

The revelation came as senior MPs of all parties yesterday demanded that Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, make a full statement to Parliament about his ministry's conduct in licensing Barlow Clowes.

They said that the Government should compensate the victims who invested more

than £180 million in Barlow Clowes if it was proved that the Department of Trade and Industry had failed in its statutory duty to vet the company before giving it a securities licence in 1985.

The employee, at the headquarters in Poynton, Cheshire, said that staff were

Mr Peter Clowes said last night that none of his clients' money has been used to pay for yachts, executive jets or personal business interests.

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instructed to remove correspondence from files and shred it before they were flown out to repeat the exercise at the company's Gibraltar office.

The correspondence which was allegedly destroyed included instructions from Barlow Clowes to transfer their money from the London arm of Barlow Clowes to the Gibraltar operation. It also included letters from investors asking about their tax position.

Staff at Barlow Clowes were told to keep details of a private property company called Megerberry secret from the inspectors.

Documents relating to International Trust Company, an Isle of Man company, were also removed from files and destroyed, the employee said.

Barlow Clowes was closed down last month by the High Court acting on a petition presented by the Securities and Investments Board, the new City watchdog.

The SIB told the court how it had uncovered evidence of clients' records being falsified, of deficient accounting and of "seriously inaccurate" returns being submitted to the DTI.

However, Mr Stanley Wright, the man who replaced him as chairman, said yesterday: "I have absolutely no knowledge of shredding taking place in Poynton. I was a non-executive director until the past few days."

"If I were aware of actions of this kind being taken I would not be a member of the board now."

The employee has told *The Times* that the destruction of

documents went far beyond the routine shredding which was normally done at Barlow Clowes.

"There was no question about it. It was definitely a panic measure. The files were gone through and papers were removed from them. Some papers were letters about tax returns. If people had invested in Portfolio 30 (the UK operation) and wanted to move into Portfolio 68 (the Gibraltar arm), the papers requesting this were removed."

"The DTI were working in the top floor of the building and the shredding was going on on the bottom floor."

"But most of it was happening after work and at weekends. The local taxi firm across the way remarked on how late people were working."

MPs' demands came as the DTI refused to make a statement on yesterday's disclosure in *The Times* that it had ignored explicit top-level warnings about the company before issuing its licence, and that the company had already been trading illegally for more than a year.

The Times revealed that the National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers (Nasdim), a City watchdog, had warned the DTI about Barlow Clowes four years ago.

It also disclosed that there was strong evidence that the company had been trading illegally before receiving the licence. None the less, after considering the company's application for several months, the DTI issued the licence on October 28, 1985.

A DTI spokesman said that before 1985 Barlow Clowes was a partnership and therefore not subject to the Companies Act. This limited the DTI's scope for investigation.

Later the DTI had persuaded Barlow Clowes to become a company under the terms of the Act, and it had issued a securities licence when it was satisfied that it complied with all the requirements.

The spokesman acknowledged that the DTI had had powers to investigate Barlow Clowes under the Prevention of Fraud Investment Act, but said these were very limited.



Mr Peter Clowes in his Poynton, Cheshire, office yesterday. Earlier this week he resigned as chief executive and chairman of James Ferguson, the parent company of Barlow Clowes.

Meacher loses his libel case against Observer

By Robin Young

Mr Michael Meacher, the Labour Party's spokesman on employment, yesterday lost his 14-day libel action against *The Observer*. He immediately said he intended to appeal.

While Mr Donald Trefford, the editor of *The Observer*, claimed to have won a victory essential to press freedom.

It took the High Court jury of nine men and two women less than 90 minutes to decide that Mr Meacher, MP for Oldham West since 1970, had not been libelled in an article written by Mr Alan Watkins.

The Observer's political diarist, in November 1984.

Mr Meacher had complained that the article, in which he was likened to a louse, accused him of lying about his family background to ingratiate himself with the Labour Party or the electorate.

As the jury foreman announced the verdict, Mr Meacher blanched and glanced at the crowded press box, blinking twice, but remained otherwise impassive.

Outside the court he said: "This is not the end of the matter. There are many disturbing aspects to this case. I have discussed the matter with my solicitors and lawyers and they have advised me that I have very strong grounds for appeal. A notice of appeal will, therefore, be served on *The Observer* on Monday."

Mr Trefford said that any appeal would be vigorously resisted. He said: "There is a tradition in this country of trenchant political comment and I think that would have been imperilled if we had lost this case."

"I understand there have

been 39 successive libel cases in which the newspapers have lost. This one turns the tide. It was essential to the freedom of the press that we should win."

Mr Trefford said he was personally sorry that Mr Meacher had been left with heavy costs, which are unofficially estimated to approach £200,000, but *The Observer* had made many attempts to settle the case which had been refused.

"We have been vindicated," Mr Trefford said. "I think it was quite clear from the judge's summing-up that this case should never have come to court. Politicians have got to learn to give and take with the rough and tumble of political life."

Mr Justice Hazan dismissed a request from Mr Gordon

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Satellite plan for BBC2 stuns television chiefs

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Britain's broadcasting revolution gained pace last night as the Government announced proposals which could result in television viewers needing a satellite dish to receive BBC2 and Channel 4.

The radical scheme, announced only 48 hours after Mr Rupert Murdoch's Sky Television Company revealed proposals to beam four new satellite channels into British homes early next year, left broadcasting chiefs bewildered.

The Whitehall blueprint envisages using two spare channels on the satellite due to be launched by British Satellite Broadcasting (BSB) for beaming BBC2 and Channel 4 from space. The UHF frequencies now used by the two channels could then at some future date be released for at least two new land-based television stations, almost certainly financed by advertising.

The Government proposals, announced jointly by the Home Office and the Department of Trade and Industry, represent the personal ideas of Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

His proposals, made known within Whitehall last month, are the real reason for the delay in producing the Government's broadcasting White Paper, which now may not appear before the end of the year. They also indicate that Lord Young's department has wrested control of broadcasting policy from the Home Office.

The Whitehall statement yesterday said: "As part of its consideration of the technical possibilities for additional television channels, the Government is holding exploratory discussions with the chairmen of the BBC, the IBA and BSB, to examine the

possibility of arranging for BBC 2 and Channel 4 to be transmitted by satellite. One option would be to use the high-powered satellite which BSB plans to launch next year."

"The Government has taken no decisions on the merits of such an approach. The purpose of the discussions is to examine its technical, commercial and financial viability. The Government will also be examining its wider implications for the broadcasting system."

Lord Young, who is determined to provide more air

Risk denied...3

space for advertisers, will also see his wishes fulfilled. He is known to have been concerned that a fifth terrestrial channel, as originally envisaged by the Government, might not be available in large areas of the south of England, which has a concentration of Conservative voters.

Mr Michael Checkland, director general of the BBC, said last night: "We will of course examine whether there is any benefit in offering BBC2 experimentally on satellite in addition to the present transmission, particularly if it can eventually offer higher quality pictures and sound."

"However viewers will have to be assured that the service of BBC2 which they presently fund and which they currently enjoy continues to be available at no extra cost."

Lord Thomson of Monifieth, chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, said: "The Government has put forward radical and novel ideas. The IBA will give them careful study and offer the Government its considered views over the next few weeks."

Rees-Mogg made peer in Honours

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Sir William Rees-Mogg, chairman of the new Broadcasting Standards Council and a former editor of *The Times*, is one of four new life peers in the Birthday Honours list published today.

The others are leading lawyer Mr Robert Alexander, QC, chairman of the City panel on take-overs and mergers, Professor Sir John Butterfield, former Regius professor of physics at Cambridge University and Lord Alexander Mackenzie Stuart, president of the European Court of Justice, whose present honorary title deriving from a Scottish law office does not entitle him to sit in the House of Lords.

The list of 679 names also includes knightships for Mr Cyril Smith, the MP for Rochdale, who is to retire at the next election, and Mr

Honours list...4, 5

Nicholas Fairbairn, MP for Perth and Kinross and former Scottish law officer.

Also knighted are four other Conservative MPs — Mr Hal Miller (Bromsgrove), Mr Dennis Walters (Westbury), Mr Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury) and Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge).

Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Energy and

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WIN £70,000

Portfolio
— PLUS NEW —
Accumulator

● The £4,000 daily prize was claimed yesterday (see page 3). There is £8,000 to be won today, plus £70,000 in the Portfolio Accumulator Fund. See pages 29, 34

INSIDE

● Dublin is now celebrating 1,000 years of a history littered with fancy and romance.
● Patrick O'Hanlon and John Higgins joined the celebrations to try to unpick a few facts. See page 13

IN PART 2

Rolls pacts

Rolls-Royce has signed preliminary agreements with two aircraft makers which may boost sales of new RB211 engines for the next generation of big jets. Page 27

Opec threat

Dr Rikwanu Lukman, the Nigerian Oil Minister, may resign as president of Opec unless a clash over output quotas is resolved. Page 27

Lineker doubt

Gary Lineker, England's leading scorer, is doubtful for tomorrow's European championship match against the Republic of Ireland. Page 40

Golfers lead

Great Britain and Ireland led by six points to three after the first day of the Curtis Cup women's golf contest against the United States. Page 41

Rules for Gib

Gibraltar's Government is drawing up rules to protect investors against dubious share-pushers based there. Family Money, pages 30-35

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Emburey to lead England

Mike Gatting, sacked as England captain by the Test and County Cricket Board, was yesterday replaced by his vice-captain, John Emburey, for the second Test match against West Indies.

Emburey has been appointed on a one match trial basis following the dismissal of Gatting on Thursday for "irresponsible behaviour" in allowing himself to be placed in a compromising situation with a barmaid at his hotel last weekend during the first Test.

Tougher codes of conduct for England players are to be drawn up by the TCCB, Alan Smith, the chief executive of the TCCB warned: "Events have shown that previous warnings about behaviour have not been wholly absorbed."

Four other England players were exonerated over suggestions of similar misconduct. Report, page 42

Armenian unrest 'out of control'

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, the catalyst for some of the worst nationalist unrest seen in recent Soviet history, has been paralysed by a new wave of strikes for the past three weeks. Its food supplies are running short and ethnic violence is continuing.

Pravda reported yesterday that Armenians were holding daily protest marches through Stepanakert, the capital, while shops, factories and restaurants remained shut and public transport was at a standstill.

The mountainous area, which has a majority Armenian population, remains barred to foreign newsmen, and observers had been led to believe that the recent absence of news meant that relative normality had returned. The graphic *Pravda* account made clear that this was far from the case and also admitted for the first time that the ruling

Communist Party had lost control.

"The Communist Party is unable to stop the trouble in Stepanakert," *Pravda* reported in the most frank account of the situation yet to appear in the official media. "The party organizations are not masters of the situation. Appeals to go back to work found no response."

The mainly Christian Armenian majority in the region is demanding that it be returned to Armenian jurisdiction, a call which has been backed by the residents of Armenia itself since trouble broke out in February, but which has been turned down by the Kremlin.

Pravda made clear that, despite Moscow's rebuff, the Armenians in the disputed region were not giving up. "Every morning tens of thousands of people are marching along the streets (of Stepanakert)." Continued on page 24, col 5

BBC fuels row on Mandela concert

By Sheila Gunn and Andrew McEwen

The BBC fuelled the row last night over its decision to broadcast today's 10-hour Mandela concert at Wembley Stadium by refusing to give a firm commitment not to relay any anti-apartheid messages during the live transmission.

A group of Conservative MPs warned that there will be "a hell of a row" if a message from Nelson Mandela, who is incarcerated in Pollsmoor prison, or other anti-apartheid propaganda is relayed.

Such transmission will also increase the tension between the Government and the BBC and is likely to spark off a further backlash against the corporation by the South African Government.

Relations between the BBC and Pretoria have already plummeted after the broadcast on Wednesday of the documentary *Suffer the Children*.

Mr Stoffel Botha, the South African Home Affairs Min-

ister, who is in charge of foreign press credentials, has ordered a report on whether the BBC should be banned. This followed hints on Thursday by Mr Adrian Volk, the Law and Order Minister, that the BBC's representatives might be ordered out because

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of the documentary, which was made inside South Africa without government permission.

In London Mr Rae Killen, the South African Ambassador, wrote to Sir Patrick Wright, permanent under-secretary at the Foreign Office, objecting to the plans to screen the concert. But Whitehall sources said he did not ask the British Government to take action, and the Foreign Office view was that it was a matter for the BBC.

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150 Wimbledon umpires 'in ticket cash deals'

By Howard Foster and John Goodbody

Up to 150 tennis umpires due to officiate at this year's Wimbledon fortnight have broken All England Tennis Club rules by selling their allocation of privileged tickets for a vast profit, it was claimed yesterday.

British and foreign umpires who can make several thousand pounds from the sale of well-positioned seats on the three main Wimbledon courts strike deals with ticket agencies and corporate hospitality firms, according to Mr Mike Burton, a businessman.

More than 300 umpires take part in the Wimbledon tournament. Those called upon to work for the entire fortnight receive six pairs of Centre Court tickets. An unprecedented demand this year has pushed the price of



BRITISH TENNIS UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

So please do not allow yourself to be tempted to make a profit on your tickets. Wimbledon expenses have been enhanced this year for everybody. There should be no need for you to supplement them with ill-gotten gains.

a pair of good seats for the Men's Final well beyond £1,200.

Six Wimbledon umpires were caught selling their tickets on the black market last year. One was expelled from the British Tennis Umpires' Association and the others lost ticket privileges.

"It is a conservative estimate to say that there are 150 because some of them band together," Mr Burton, aged 42, said. His MBM company is to entertain about 2,000 business clients at Wimbledon.

"One umpire has been supplying me with tickets for ten 10 years. He always asks for cash. Others are paid either by cash or with cheques. I will take the names of those umpires with me to the grave because they are very valuable people and I will always protect them," he said.

Mr Burton said that he visited tennis championships leading up to Wimbledon fortnight to arrange his deals.

Mr Burton's assertion that umpires are still selling tickets against the rules

of their association and the All England Club was supported by a large ticket agency in the West End of London. "It is like an unofficial wage for an umpire," the Dial-a-Ticket agency in the Strand said.

Recent reports have indicated that umpires are willing to risk expulsion from the umpires' association to make up to £6,000 from the sale of tickets with an original face value of between £9 and £25.

● On Monday *The Times* begins a two-part examination of Wimbledon fortnight. It examines the new pressures that are sending ticket prices higher than ever and highlights the emergence of a new industry that wants to change the way that Britain's most prestigious sporting event is run.

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Moore 'acted illegally' in cutting pensioners' benefit

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The Government faced further embarrassment over its social security reforms and a possible bill of £80 million after a tribunal ruling yesterday in favour of four pensioners from Birkenhead.

A social security appeals tribunal ruled that Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, acted beyond his powers when he cut housing benefit supplement for the four people on April 3.

The ruling could apply to 400,000 claimants who also lost £12 weekly supplements one week before the Government's social security reforms came in to effect on April 11.

Mr Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead, said that the Government should now pay out for the poor with the generosity that it had shown to the rich.

"This is another significant success which shows the extent to which the skids are under the Government's welfare policy," he said. "More importantly it shows that cuts in benefit since April are unlawful."

Mr Nicholas Warren, the Birkenhead solicitor who also overturned government regulations on board and lodg-

ing, argued that the Government was not entitled to alter the rules on housing benefit supplements without a vote of both Houses of Parliament.

The Government had assumed that the benefit was covered by housing benefit legislation, when in fact it was part of supplementary benefit which was replaced by income support in April.

"The Secretary of State has misunderstood housing benefit supplement and as a direct result of that mistake has interfered with it," Mr Warren told the tribunal.

Yesterday's decision means that 400,000 claimants should have received benefit payments in the week of April 4-11. Because of that they will qualify for continuing cash protection as do other supplementary benefit claimants under the new system.

However the Department of Health and Social Security is likely to appeal against the ruling to a social security commissioner.

"The decision is to be greatly welcomed," the charity Help the Aged said yesterday. "This represents a clawback to a situation which is more fair and egalitarian."

He added: "The whole reorganization of housing benefit has been bad news for the elderly population."

The three-man tribunal took 20 minutes to decide that the Government had acted beyond its powers.

Before retiring to consider the case, Mr Reginald Atkins, the tribunal chairman, said he expected that which ever side lost would appeal.

"All we are doing is blowing the whistle for the beginning of extra time," he said. "It isn't the end of the game."

Mr Geoffrey Healing, the DHSS representative, said: "We will await the panel's decision in writing in a week or two. It is possible then that an appeal will be considered but that will not be my decision."

The four pensioners involved are Mrs Dora Wolf, Mrs Sarah Broadfield, Mr William McLoughlin and Mr John Percival.

Mrs Wolf, aged 68, a widow, from Talbot Court, Oxtun, said when she was first affected by the benefit change that she could only hope that she would die before her savings ran out.

She said yesterday: "I am very pleased, but we have got a long way to go yet."

Mr Warren, who also successfully fought the case of a Birkenhead man to have the Government's "board and lodgings" regulations overturned, said: "The tribunal has ruled that the regulation taking away housing benefit supplement was not permitted by law."

"What happens now depends on the Secretary of State and the DHSS. If they accept the tribunal ruling then lots of pensioners will be protected against the recent cuts in their income."

Mr Robin Cook, Labour's social services spokesman, said the successful appeal confirmed what Labour had been saying for the past year.

"Government changes in social security were not properly thought through. It shows what happens when you take policy decisions in private without consulting those in the know. You end up with egg on your face," he said.

"The decision could mean an extra £10 a week for almost half a million claimants. That's a big help for people on £50 or £60 a week."

A match for Princess



The Princess of Wales enjoyed mixed fortunes yesterday after joining tennis star Steffi Graf for a few sets of doubles at the Vandoni Club in Shepherd's Bush, west London.

The Princess and her frequent tennis partner Mr Charles Swallow, a director of the club, were first beaten by the champion and her partner Lord Willsborough de Broke 3-6.

The women then joined forces to beat their partners 6-5 after a tie-break.

After the matches, Miss Graf and Mr Swallow both praised the Princess's ability on court. Miss Graf was quoted as saying: "We had a lot of fun. She told me that she usually only plays once a week and had only been playing for a year, so I think she plays quite well. She has a good serve and forehand."

Mr Swallow said: "She played some very good shots. There was one memorable one when she hit the ball down the sideline, and Steffi couldn't get to it."

The Princess was at the club to open the European Office of the Women's International Tennis Association, but the ceremony was delayed for 20 minutes by the late arrival of Miss Graf who got lost on her way from Wimbledon and was delayed by traffic.

After the brief ceremony, Miss Graf, aged 18, presented the Princess with the racket she had used to beat Natalia Zvereva in the French Open final last week.

The Princess discussed the difficulties of dealing with London traffic with Miss Graf.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Bonus for home and overseas

Foreign travel and a new washing machine will both be paid for by yesterday's £4,000 Portfolio competition which was won outright by Mr Peter Horrocks, from East Preston, West Sussex.

"I will now be able to take my wife on that trip to Florence that I've been promising her for a number of years," Mr Horrocks, a retired Bank of England employee, said.

He added: "It also comes at a particularly opportune time - we have just had to replace our washing machine."

Italian murder detectives to visit London

By Roger Boyes

Italian detectives investigating the murder of two restaurateurs and their wives near Rimini are to visit London next week to make inquiries at Italian restaurants in Soho and Chelsea.

After months of investigation, no obvious motive has emerged for the murders of two retired London restaurateurs - Signor Luigi Pagliarini and Signor Sergio Galassi - and their wives. The two couples had retired to Italy from their profitable restaurant businesses in London.

Dr Roberto Sapio, the chief investigating magistrate, is convinced that the motive must be in London.

Mills back

Courtnails said yesterday that normal working had resumed at its textile mills after a substantial majority of its workers had voted to accept a pay offer of 7 per cent, including 1.5 per cent in anticipation of planned cost saving productivity improvements. Present minimum earnings levels will be increased by £10 to £28.60.

Baby charges

Delia McCall, aged 44, of Garswood, Merseyside, was yesterday committed for trial on three charges of abducting Natalie Horrell, aged five months, at Caerphilly, Mid Glamorgan, in May. Mrs McCall was remanded in custody by Cardiff magistrates.

Harrods sues

Harrods said yesterday that it would sue the Daily Mirror over allegations about girls working on its perfume counters. The store said it had conducted an internal investigation and issued legal proceedings. The Mirror said: "We stand by our story."

Poet choked

The Irish poet, John Jordan, choked to death on a ham roll while attending a conference at the Park Hotel, Cardiff, earlier this month, a Cardiff inquest was told yesterday. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

Couple on murder charges set free

A man and a woman accused of stabbing a wealthy oil man to death during an orgy of sex and drinking, walked free from court yesterday when murder charges against them were dropped.



Anthony "Lucky" Diamond, aged 52, an Australian businessman, was found dead in the bloodstained kitchen of his home at Cromer, Norfolk, coast last July.

Mr Donald Baker, aged 56, the licensee of the local Poachers Pocket public house, and Miss Kathleen McCarthy, aged 20, who worked there as a waitress, have been on bail ever since, facing charges of murder, robbery with violence and theft, which they denied.

Yesterday at Norwich Crown Court, not guilty verdicts on charges of murder and robbery were recorded against Mr Baker of Coast Road, Bacton, and Miss McCarthy, of Woodfield Gardens, New Malden, Surrey, after the prosecution said it could not prove how Mr Diamond met his death.

Mr Anthony Hooper, for the prosecution, told the court that Mr Diamond and Mr

Miss McCarthy yesterday, after being found not guilty.

Baker spent the afternoon drinking Scotch at Mr Diamond's home before Miss McCarthy arrived. Amid a confused background of heavy drinking and wild sexual activity, Mr Diamond met his death, Mr Hooper said.

At one stage Miss McCarthy had the top half of her clothing removed and Mr Diamond undressed and went to his bedroom, the court was told.

While he was there, Mr Baker and Miss McCarthy searched his home and found more than £1,500 in £50 notes

in a briefcase in the kitchen but were disturbed by Mr Diamond.

Police scientists later pieced together a picture of the scuffle that broke out between them, during which Mr Diamond was stabbed with a kitchen knife.

Mr Hooper said: "There was an enormous amount of blood everywhere. McCarthy suffered bruises and cuts on her hands, feet and upper body while Baker cut both hands badly and had to be taken to hospital."

Neighbours saw Mr Baker and Miss McCarthy stagger out to a car in the drive and drive off, with Mr Baker crashing into one of the gate posts on the way.

They drove to the Poachers Pocket where Miss McCarthy behaved in what Mr Hooper described as a bizarre manner. He said: "She began dancing in the discotheque of the public house, still caked with blood, half naked, in a totally dishevelled and shocked condition. Friends tried to persuade her to leave but she continued dancing in a wild abandoned manner."

"Baker was rushed to hospital where he was later arrested, while police arrested McCarthy at the public house where they found the cash hidden on the premises."

Mr Hooper said: "The prosecution have no evidence that Baker actually stabbed Diamond, neither is there any evidence that it was planned or premeditated. Neither has the prosecution any evidence that McCarthy deliberately stabbed Diamond intending to commit murder."

The prosecution was unable to prove in what circumstances the two defendants received their injuries or say exactly what took place at the house that night.

Mr Justice Garland also directed that further charges of theft against both defendants be dropped after an application from Mr Anthony Arledge, QC, for Miss McCarthy and Mr David Penny-Davey, QC, for Mr Baker.

Mrs Maria Diamond, aged 42, the dead man's widow, said yesterday: "I am totally distressed. The only certain thing is that my husband was killed here a year ago."

Thyssen exhibition sets a record

By Andrew Billen

The Royal Academy exhibition of Old Master paintings from the Thyssen-Bornemisza collection, jointly presented with The Times, has broken all attendance records for a show of its size.

The exhibition closes tomorrow. Since opening in March it has been visited by 181,600 people - an average of 2,112 a day.

The attendance makes it the

twelfth most popular exhibition at the Royal Academy for 25 years. The 11 seen by greater numbers were, unlike Thyssen, all main hall exhibitions.

The attendance compares with 147,000 visitors to the 1986 Picasso exhibition, 164,000 to the German Art exhibition in 1985, and 146,000 for an exhibition drawn from the Baron Thy-

sen-Bornemisza's modern collection in 1984.

The Royal Academy shop, which sold 137,000 Thyssen postcards, has compiled a list of top sellers. The most popular was Michael Suerwerdt's "Sense of Smell" (10,300), followed by Rubens' "Portrait of a Lady with a Rosary" (8,000) and Petrus Christus's "The Madonna of the Dry Tree" (7,300).

Baker urged to veto £100 exam appeal deposit

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Labour yesterday urged Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education, to veto a move by examiners to make a deposit of £100 a subject for the right to make full use of the GCSE appeals procedures.

The joint council of the examining boards fears a record number of appeals because of the unfamiliarity of the new examination and says

it has introduced the deposit to deter frivolous complaints. Up to 60,000 results at 16-plus are questioned by parents or head teachers each year.

The £100 applies only to an approach to the council as the court of last resort and will be returned if an appeal is upheld. Clerical checks and remarks by the five examining boards will cost less, and in some cases nothing, depend-

ing on which board set the question.

The council has no powers to force a board to change a pupil's grade but only to "look again" at the marks.

Mr Jack Straw, Labour's chief education spokesman, said: "Kenneth Baker must veto this plan immediately. It will penalize any pupil from less well-off homes."

"The boards just have to accept that in the first year there will be more appeals than usual and that the future credibility of GCSE partly depends on a fair appeals system in the early years."

The Department of Education and Science yesterday denied that ministers had been caught unaware by the announcement. Mr Baker is unlikely to ask the council to reconsider its move.

PLO arms cache

Palestinian was 'working for Israel'

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Israeli diplomats have confirmed that a Palestinian on trial for possessing Palestinian Liberation Organization arms and explosives passed terrorist information to Israeli officials, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The Israeli links were disclosed by the Crown yesterday as Ismael Hassan Sowan, the Palestinian, told the court how he was recruited by Mossad, the Israeli secret service, and given money to live in Paris and London so he could spy. Details of the information provided by the Israeli embassy for police were given yesterday on the fourth day of Mr Sowan's trial.

Mr Sowan, aged 29, a research assistant who was born in Jerusalem, has pleaded not guilty to possessing arms and explosives found in suitcases at his home in Hull last year.

The cache is alleged to have been left

by a man called Abder Rahman Mustapha, who was linked by police to the murder last summer in Chelsea of Mr Ali al-Adhami, a newspaper cartoonist.

Mr Mustapha is said to have been a member of a PLO group, Force 17, guarding the organization's leader, Mr Yasser Arafat.

Mr Sowan's connection with the Israelis was disclosed in agreed admissions yesterday made by Mr John Nutting, for the prosecution, before the start of the defence case.

Mr Nutting told the court: "Police have made inquiries at the Israeli embassy in London. The embassy have said that on occasions the defendant has been in contact with the Israeli authorities."

Last year, while in Israel, the embassy said that Mr Sowan had told the authorities in Bethlehem that he was

looking after suitcases containing electronic equipment for Mr Mustapha.

Mr David Cocks QC, for the defence, told the jury that one of the striking features of the case was the fact that although his client was working for the Israelis, it was normally impossible to get such evidence before the courts. People like Mr Sowan would normally be left in the cold, Mr Cocks said.

Mr Sowan had tried to steer his way through a maze of conflicting loyalties and ended up mixing with PLO members and also working for Mossad.

Mr Sowan said the Israelis paid for a flat in north London, for a course he took, and gave him £400 a month. When he moved to Bath, the Israelis gave him £500 a month to cover trips to London where he struck up an acquaintance with Mr Mustapha.

The case continues on Monday.

Satellite broadcasting

Rivals deny space loss risk

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

Reports that the satellite television networks planned for launch next year could be put out of action by technological difficulties were denied by both SES, which is launching the Astra satellite on which Mr Rupert Murdoch's Sky Television service will be carried, and British Satellite Broadcasting, which plans a rival service later in 1989.

At a European satellite broadcasting conference in London yesterday, both organizations faced tough questioning about how they would get their networks up and running.

Some industry experts are worried about the implications of the destruction of the satellites used by either of the services.

Astra is due for launch in November on the new Ariane 4 European booster, while BSB's satellite is being

launched by the American Delta rocket in the new year. Both Ariane and Delta have proved very reliable boosters in the past. Even so, both organizations believed they would be able to deal with the loss of their first satellites if necessary.

Mr Robin Crossley, manager of reception equipment for Luxembourg-based SES, said: "We are now in final negotiation for the construction of a second satellite."

Mr Graham Grist, operations and finance director of BSB, said that his company had booked the launch of a second satellite in August 1990.

Fears that a West German telecommunications satellite, DFS Copernicus, due for launch in 1991, will be stationed so close to Astra that TV reception by small dishes will be affected were also

dismissed by Mr Crossley.

He said that the satellites would be separated by over four degrees in space, and that a 60cm dish of the kind to be marketed by Amstrad would be sufficient to produce suitable standard pictures. "The argument is fallacious," he said.

Lord Weinstock, chairman of the GEC group of companies, agreed yesterday to supply the crucial electronic components for the roof top dish aerials that will receive the four 24-hour television channels to be broadcast directly by the Astra satellite next year by Mr Rupert Murdoch's Sky television company.

The agreement was reached between Lord Weinstock and Mr Alan Sugar, of Amstrad, who aims to sell a million dish units at £199 each to receive Sky channels.



Mrs Yvonne Munro showing off her son, Kelsey.

Baby for liver swap woman

Mrs Yvonne Munro, aged 38, has become Britain's first liver transplant patient to have a baby.

Mrs Munro, of Coley Grove, Little Hayworth, Staffordshire, who had a transplant operation three years ago, gave birth to a boy, Kelsey, weighing 4lb 3½oz.

The child is the first for Mrs Munro and her husband Roy, aged 38, and she has another son, Hytton, aged 19, from her first marriage.

She said: "I can't believe it. I knew I was seriously ill and would have died in just a few weeks without the operation. Now I have had the second baby I always wanted."

The child was born at Birmingham Maternity Hospital, not far from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital where the transplant took place in 1985.

Mr John Backels, the transplant consultant who looked after Mrs Munro, said: "We

Rates hope for horse owners

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Government has not yet closed the door on the possibility of further rates exemption or concessions for horse owners and breeders.

The industry appeared to be in some confusion yesterday after the Government had rejected an amendment in the Lords on Thursday, during a debate on the Local Government Finance Bill, which would have extended the definition of agricultural buildings - which are not rated - to cover those used for breeding and rearing horses.

At the same time it was announced that buildings for small-scale, non-commercial breeding of horses and ponies would be exempted from paying rates from 1990.

Mr Sam Sheppard, Secretary of the Horse and Pony Breeders' Taxation Com-

mittee, said last night that out of about 6,500 breeders in Britain, about 4,500 owned only one mare and another 1,000 only two. They were mainly people who bred and kept horses for their own use, and would presumably benefit from the new exemption.

That left about 1,000 commercial breeders who, since a lands tribunal ruling in 1981, had been placed at a disadvantage with their counterparts overseas.

The committee was still hoping that the Government would allow a return to the situation that existed between 1933 and 1981, when buildings used for breeding and rearing horses and ponies were placed in the same category as those used for agricultural livestock.

Major Christopher

Philipson, managing director of the British Bloodstock Agency, said that an establishment that kept, say, three stallions, might have to provide stabling for up to 120 mares, and the rates could be a crippling financial burden.

"The Government's attitude is incomprehensible when it is trying to persuade farmers to diversify into new enterprises," he said.

The British Horse Society said its aim was to have de-rating extended to all parts of the equestrian industry.

On Thursday, Mr John Gummer, Minister of State for Agriculture, said: "A horse is an agricultural animal when it is an agricultural animal, but when it is running in a Derby it is obviously not an agricultural animal. We are going to keep it like that."

£20,000 will fail to save dog that pined

For 10 days a Yorkshire terrier called Benji lived in luxury after inheriting £20,000 from his owner, Mrs Diana Busfield of Nottingham.

But Benji pined for his mistress and was destroyed after biting staff at the kennels that were his new home.

Mrs Busfield's executors, the Midland Bank, said yesterday: "The dog just did not like strangers. When Mrs Busfield was alive, he bit the nurses who were looking after her. The kennels were in no way responsible. We simply could not find a suitable home for the dog in view of his behaviour."

Benji's inheritance will be shared among three animal charities to which Mrs Busfield bequeathed the rest of her estate.

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Ordination of women

Test for Synod as bishops fail to resolve differences

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

The campaign for women priests in the Church of England will face its most critical test next month when the General Synod debates the underlying theological issues and considers legislation.

More than a third of the synod's standing committee voted last week against presenting such legislation to the synod, in view of the controversial nature of some details.

A key issue was the level of compensation for clergy who wish to resign their orders because they cannot accept women priests. The supporters of women's ordination are divided on that point, and some may even vote with their opponents.

The proposed compensation terms are to be published next week. It is already clear that the synod's reaction to them will be heavily influenced by its response to a theological report from the House of Bishops, published yesterday. The report was

commissioned to try to resolve differences between them, but it underlines the extent of their disagreement.

The report was prepared by a small group of bishops, headed by the Bishop of Newcastle, the Right Rev Alec Graham. It was known to include the leading opponent of women's ordination, the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard.

The other names have not been disclosed, on the ground that the report has now been accepted by the House of Bishops as a whole.

The group was described yesterday as unanimous, although on the principal theological issues it records only an "agreement to disagree". The Bishop of Newcastle said it represented "guidance" to the church on what were the real issues.

The bishops said that as a priest represents Christ, who was a man, ought only men to be ordained, or does a priest represent Christ's humanity?

They also question whether the New Testament opposition to women having "headship" over men excluded them from positions of authority in the church, or whether that was overtaken by the Biblical references of the fundamental equality of men and women.

Would the Church of England jeopardize church unity by ordaining women, they ask, or would the ordination of women enhance the church's unity at a deeper level?

May the Church of England act before the emergence of an ecumenical consensus, including other churches, or should it act as it thinks right?

The report also asks how the traditional "Anglican" sources of authority, scripture, tradition and reason should be used to answer such questions.

The report describes the various views on those questions which exist among the bishops, without giving names or numbers. The weight of opinion appears to be in

favour of proceeding now, as is borne out by the voting record of the bishops in previous debates.

The bishops conclude by stating that the consecration of a woman bishop in the Anglican Communion overseas "would certainly be regarded by many as a break in communion" which it describes as "a very grave matter".

The issue of women bishops is likely to be one of the most controversial subjects discussed at the Lambeth Conference later in July.

The Bishop of Newcastle said there was underlying unity among the bishops in spite of their disagreements.

Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, said in an introduction to the report: "The differing judgements of members of the house on the ordination of women to the priesthood have been set in a framework of shared belief which must not be underestimated".

Leading article, page 11

Regional Trends

Private beds doubled in four years

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The number of private hospital beds in the country nearly doubled between 1982 and 1986 with the biggest expansions in the North and Midlands.

Figures contained in the Government's *Regional Trends 1988* confirm that private firms are trying to exploit areas traditionally reluctant to support private health care, such as Yorkshire, Merseyside and Trent. Private companies are beginning to realize that the provision of private hospital beds in London has reached saturation point.

While some small hospitals are being

set up in the M4 corridor, most firms are now going to the North or the Midlands for new developments.

The rapid expansion in private beds overall is partly explained, however, by the growth in private nursing homes in retirement areas such as the south coast, Devon and Cornwall.

The survey, published earlier this week, shows that between 1982 and 1986 the number of beds in private hospitals, nursing homes and clinics jumped from 34,786 to 62,112 in England alone.

The steepest increases were in York-

shire, from 2,165 to 5,055, Trent, 2,132 to 4,860, and Mersey, 1,868 to 3,799.

Both Wessex and South-Western regional health authorities, which cover popular retirement areas, showed increases of more than 100 per cent.

The survey also showed wide variations in the number of private patients in National Health Service hospitals.

North-West Thames had 5,917 in-patient discharges and deaths in 1986. This compared with 2,115 in the Northern region and 1,523 in the whole of Wales.

The caber comes south



Mr Peter Tancred, who claims to be Britain's strongest man, tossing the caber yesterday at the Laverliever Highland Games, held at Thomas Tallis School, Greenwich, south-east London, to raise funds for Laverliever Lodge, the rural pursuits centre in Argyll, Scotland, which children from Greenwich visit each year (Photograph: Nick Rogers).

Lady Luck smiles selectively on MPs

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

Some MPs have more luck than others in the ballots for Prime Minister's Question Time.

Exasperated by his repeated failures in the ballot, Mr Robert Hayward, Conservative MP for Kingswood, has completed an analysis of those who have submitted more than five questions over a five-month period.

He has discovered that the Liberal Democrats secure high places in the ballot out of all proportion to their tiny number of MPs.

The luckiest MP of all is Mr Graham Allen, the new Labour MP for Nottingham North, who submitted six questions and whose average position in the ballot has been seventh. Any MP who secures one of the top half dozen places can expect to be called.

The least fortunate MP is Mr John Redwood, the new Conservative MP for Wokingham and former head of the Prime Minister's policy unit. His average position has been 111th.

Yesterday's Commons Order Paper carried the results for the ballot for Prime Minister's Questions on June 23.

The first question has been won by Mr Tam Dalyell, a persistent thorn in Mrs Thatcher's side, who came third in Mr Hayward's list of luckiest MPs. The fifth went to Mr Simon Hughes, SLD MP for Bermondsey, who was second in the list. The twelfth went to Mr Alex Carlile, SLD MP for Montgomery, who was listed ninth.

Questions are submitted to the Commons Table Office between 10am and 4pm on the day that falls two weeks before the relevant Question Time.

At 4pm the clerks carry them up to a committee room where they turn them all upside-down, shuffle them, and divide them into three equal piles. They then take one at random from each pile in turn until none remains.

As a final precaution to ensure fairness, they check that no MP has submitted more than one question before publishing the ballot results in the next day's Order Paper.

Mr Hayward, whose two researchers spent days on the analysis, accepts that the procedure is as fair as could be devised, and that it is meticulously followed by the clerks. But it confirms his belief that he consistently fares badly in the ballot. He is the fourteenth unluckiest MP, with an average position in the ballot of 87th.

The luckiest MPs are: 1. Mr Graham Allen (Lab, Nottingham North), average position, seventh; 2. Mr Simon Hughes (SLD, Bermondsey), 22; 3. Mr Tam Dalyell (Lab, Linlithgow), 24; 4. Mr Greville Janner (Lab, Leicester West), 27; 5. Mr Peter Thurnham (Con, Bolton NE) and Mr Tim Smith (Con, Beaconsfield), 31.

The unluckiest are: 1. Mr John Redwood (Con, Wokingham), 111; 2. Mr Rhodri Morgan (Lab, Cardiff West), 108; 3. Mr David Porter (Con, Weymouth), 104; 4. Mr John Cummings (Lab, Easton), 99; 5. Mr Patrick McNair-Wilson (Con, New Forest), 97.

The Times/Collins Dictionaries crossword championship

Former winner returns to the fray

By Robin Young

Authors, advertisers and postmen will be pitting their wits against housewives, lawyers and mask makers when the London regional finals of *The Times/Collins Dictionaries* crossword championship are played this weekend at the Park Lane Hotel in Mayfair.

The 506 participants have survived two eliminatory and qualifying rounds. Now they have to complete four crosswords of at least average

difficulty, without mistakes and in not more than 30 minutes for each puzzle.

The competitors include Sir David Hunt, the former ambassador and *Mastermind* winner, who has frequently won through to the national final, and the retired diplomat, Mr Roy Dean, who holds the record for completing a puzzle in 3.4 minutes.

Mr Dean was the first winner of the championships in 1970, won again in 1979

and came third last year.

Other entrants include a mask maker who collects fans, a retired paint sprayer who enjoys opera, a portrait painter, a man who knits, and a cabaret comedian.

The contestants' average age is 50, the oldest is 79 and the youngest, 21. Men outnumber women three to one. Their hobbies include wargames, hats, pub signs and collecting skulls.

The competitors may en-

counter some of the 1,500 new words recently added to Collins' Concise Dictionary, such as glasnost, gossipol or bonk, and newly recorded phrases like golden handcuffs, green wellic, and concert party.

The seven puzzlers with the fastest average times for completing all correct answers will meet the winners from the four regional finals, already completed, in the national final in London on Sunday, September 11.

Gummer attacks 'taxidermy' view on planning

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

Mr John Gummer, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sounded a warning yesterday against "the Mrs Snells of this world, who want to turn the countryside into a museum".

Mrs Snell is an obnoxious newcomer to the long-running BBC Radio serial, *The Archers*, who is thought to typify a breed of late twentieth century rural settler which opposes any development that

might prove to be a threat to its pastoral idyll.

Mr Gummer described such people as belonging to "the taxidermy school of planning". He said: "Using the language of conservation, they condemn us to preservation."

"But where are the jobs and opportunities for working people? What future is there for the countrymen and countrywomen who fashion these villages and whose farming forebears created the countryside around?"

Mr Gummer, who was speaking at the annual conference in Hereford of the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers, said jobs in agriculture would continue to decline because of curbs on surplus production. Planning policies must give elbow room for rural enterprises to take their place.

If the countryside was not to be filled with old schoolhouses, old rectories and old forges, and devalued village schools, parsonages and enterprises, the "rural extremists" must be countered.

June 10 1988

PARLIAMENT

Campaign for breast feeding

The Government is to spend about £100,000 in the next two years on a new initiative to encourage breast feeding, Mrs Edwina Currie, Under Secretary of State for Health, said in opening a debate on women's health. The money will be spent through grant-aid to voluntary organizations.

In 1980, about two-thirds of mothers had breast-fed their babies, but the most recent survey showed that 85 per cent of those in social classes one and two were breast feeding, while only 45 per cent of those in social class five did so.

Breast feeding was better for the mother and for the baby.

Manufacturers of baby milk had agreed to phase out all free samples and view that a lot of problems with women's health were their own fault. Poverty took a toll on women's health and the minister did not even begin to understand that.

It was offensive to talk about women as Mrs Currie had and to blame them for seeking relief through smoking from the ten-

sions which in many ways her Government had put upon them.

Mrs Teresa Gorman (Billerica, Co) said that, when menopausal, women became an embarrassment. When she had suffered this problem she had decided to do something about it and received hormone replacement treatment at King's College Hospital. The result was



Mrs Currie: Breast feeding is better.

that instead of falling to pieces she was now a reconstructed woman.

She had established a committee to raise money for a national research and development centre.

Mrs Joan Walley (Stoke-on-Trent North, Lab) said that the minister had talked about encouraging breast feeding, but often hard-pressed midwives were not available to give advice to new mothers about it.

Mr Ronald Fearn (Southport, SLD) said that the number of midwives should be increased and after-care services expanded. More women were being sent home 24 hours after giving birth because of financial and staffing pressures.

Mrs Hilary Armstrong (North-West Durham, Lab) said that there ought to be research into the suggestion that incidence of cervical cancer was greater in areas of "dirty jobs", such as mining and steel production. Many were convinced that there was a link.

Next week at Westminster

Labour MPs may delay Housing Bill

The Government will face angry Labour protests over its conduct of the Housing Bill, which dominates Commons business on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (Nicholas Wood writes).

The Opposition is furious that ministers have put down more than 180 new clauses or amendments to the Bill after the completion of its Commons committee stage and it is demanding more time to debate the mammoth measure, aimed at revitalizing the private rented sector and giving council tenants new powers to choose a landlord.

Yesterday, Mr Clive Soley, the Labour housing spokesman, said that he was examining options for delaying the passage of the Bill unless ministers agreed to an extra day's debate.

He said that if the request was denied he would ask the Speaker to reconvene the standing committee so that important matters such as the setting up of a new housing corporation for Wales could be properly scrutinized.

Ministers have brought forward amendments and guidelines aimed at giving greater choice to council tenants and to provide stronger guarantees for

those who exercise their right to pick a new landlord. The new amendments are to stop large-scale public housing monopolies being converted into large private housing monopolies and to ensure that new landlords are independent of local authorities.

On Thursday, the Criminal Justice Bill, covering a host of items such as extradition, confiscation of the proceeds of serious crime, closed-circuit television court evidence from abused children, the ending of the defence right to peremptory challenges to jurors and the carrying of knives, will continue

its report stage in the Commons. Friday will see a Commons debate on the growth of the tourism industry, in which Mr John Lee, the Minister for Tourism, is expected to follow up his announcement of March's record figures for overseas visitors — up 100,000 to 1.1 million — by emphasizing the importance of quality of service and proper training for people working in the sector.

The House of Lords will devote most of Monday, Tuesday and Thursday to the continuing committee stage of the Local Government Finance Bill — the poll-tax measure.

Hong Kong's people voting with their feet

The people of Hong Kong were voting on their future with their feet. Up to 30,000 were expected to leave this year, Lady Young (C), a former Foreign Office Minister, said during a House of Lords debate on the colony.

She and other peers expressed concern about the draft basic law being discussed for Hong Kong after it returns to Chinese control in 1997.

The Government was also urged to tackle the weekly influx of Vietnamese refugees into the colony.

Lady Young said that on a recent visit to Hong Kong she found a booming economy but people were still leaving. They were worried that certain clauses of the basic law left the door open for abuse of human rights and did not appear to give an absolute guarantee of continued democracy after 1997.

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhys, leader of the Labour peers, said that there were not enough provisions to guarantee direct elections after 1997.

"It seems to weigh too heavily on the side of the Chinese Government in appointing the executive."

Lord Bingham-Carter (SLD) said that although the Chinese appeared to guarantee the judicial independence of the colony, several clauses in the draft basic law placed the ultimate power to interpret the law with the Chinese People's National Congress.

Lord Glenarthur, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said that the basic law, as now drafted, was no more than an initial text. Parts of it were not right, but also acknowledged by Chinese spokesmen.

The 27,000 emigrants from Hong Kong last year was an increase on 1986 but was not out of line with the historical average.

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Euphoric Reagan may rob Bush of his winning aces

How quickly those pictures from Red Square have faded. The Moscow summit, a media extravaganza that dominated American thoughts and screens for a whole week, now seems an epoch away. Indeed, for both countries it was a dreamy and distracting interlude amid more pressing domestic concerns. The Russians are preoccupied with the struggle between conservatives and reformers; the Americans are engrossed in the presidential election.

The memories linger on, however, in President Reagan's mind. Indeed, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev seems to have won the battle of the proverbs, as the truth of his opening salvo becomes evident: better to see once than to hear a hundred times.

Mr Reagan was deeply im-

pressed by what he saw. He has been talking about it, in increasingly sentimental terms, ever since — recalling the Soviet people as the "warmest, friendliest, nicest people you could ever meet", speaking with incredulity of his stroll along Arbat Street, and referring again to Mr Gorbachev as a friend.

The irony is that, in repudiating his earlier vision of an evil empire, President Reagan has left his own bedrock supporters stranded on the shores of the Cold War. He has swung round so far that there is more difference now between Reagan Mark I and Reagan Mark II than there is between today's herald of new Soviet-American friendship and the Democrats.

Even moderate Republicans have felt the need to sound a

warning note. Mr Frank Carlucci, the Defence Secretary, has said that helping the Soviet Union to modernize its economy might be an "enormous miscalculation", and that the West should not relax in the face of an unchanged Soviet military threat.

Mr Reagan won vigorous bipartisan applause here for his performance in Moscow — both for his championing of human rights and his caution in not rushing forward on arms control. He has certainly revived his standing and popularity with ordinary Americans — who are quite prepared, once again, to overlook the gaffe on American Indians, the nodding off at the Bolshoi and the flummery press conferences. But in electoral terms, his summit performance may be more questionable.

Indeed, Vice-President George Bush clearly believes it has done him no good at all.

Mr Reagan virtually bound Mr Bush to continue the new policies on arms control and defence. But is there now any reason why this should be the work of a Republican? Hasn't Mr Reagan made the world seem safer for a Michael Dukakis, a less turbulent and

conservative columnist, put it succinctly: "Dukakis may never have met a weapons system he liked. But even his likely defence budget would be way too big if President Reagan is right about the Cold War being over... If Reagan is right, the stakes of American politics are suddenly much lower than they were and it matters less who wins elections. If Reagan is wrong, but Bush thinks as Reagan does, the choice between Bush and Dukakis does not matter all that much."

Mr Bush has attempted to show that he does not necessarily think as Mr Reagan does. He has voiced public scepticism over the changes in the Soviet Union and insisted on the continued need for American vigilance, and allowed himself a small hint of disagreement with

his boss. For Mr Bush knows that he needs the right to bolster his flagging campaign.

Columnists have done their best to counter the Reagan conversion. William Safire accused the Western press of falling for the deception that the communist system had changed. William Buckley remarked sarcastically that Mr Reagan was engaged not in forgiveness of the "evil empire" but in what George Orwell called "vaporization". "Big Brother decides to change a historical or a present fact, and evidence inconvenient to the new thesis is simply made to disappear."

He added, in language calculated to be offensive, that to greet change in the Soviet Union "as if it were no longer evil is on the order of changing our entire

position toward Adolf Hitler on receiving the news that he has abolished one extermination camp".

But the summit has highlighted an increasing consensus on foreign policy, at least on the big questions of East-West relations and arms control. The Democratic centre has made common cause with the Republican moderates, and even former President Gerald Ford, once the victim of Mr Reagan's strident anti-communism, could only remark wryly: "I guess you live and learn."

All this robs Mr Bush of one of his trump cards: foreign policy experience and proven toughness in dealing with the Russians. Republican strategists may wish the summit had turned out otherwise.

Poll shows Jackson would cost Dukakis victory in election

From Michael Binyon, Washington

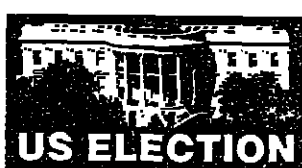
If the Rev Jesse Jackson were to be made the Democratic vice-presidential candidate, his presence on the ticket would lose the election for Governor Michael Dukakis, according to a new poll.

A survey released yesterday by the newspaper USA Today said that Mr Dukakis would beat Vice-President George Bush comfortably if he picked any vice-presidential candidate other than Mr Jackson. More than half the respondents also rejected Mr Jackson's argument that he had earned a place on the ticket or in the Cabinet because of his strong primary showings.

The poll of 1,253 voters showed that, if Mr Dukakis picked Senator John Glenn of Ohio as his running mate, he would beat Mr Bush by 48 to 40 per cent; if he picked Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey, he would beat Mr Bush by 45 to 39 per cent. But if he chose Mr Jackson, he would lose to Mr Bush by 47 to 40 per cent.

The poll found, however, that Mr Dukakis was now in such a strong position that, without naming a vice-presidential candidate, he has a margin over Mr Bush of seven points — 45 to 38 per cent. This reflects other recent polls showing Mr Dukakis winning decisively in November.

There appears to be little sentiment among US voters



that Mr Jackson is entitled to be offered the vice-presidency: 60 per cent said he should not be guaranteed a Cabinet post, and 59 per cent said he should not be promised a "major policy-making role" in a Dukakis administration.

Some 52 per cent said he had not "earned" any guarantee; 35 per cent said he had. Black voters, however, disagreed: 57 per cent said he deserved the vice-presidency, 54 per cent a Cabinet post and 58 per cent a policy role.

Mr Bush yesterday kept up his attacks on Mr Dukakis. On Thursday he called Mr Dukakis a 1960s-style liberal, and said he had developed his political philosophy in academia and not the real world.

He accused Mr Dukakis of supporting more government and higher taxes, of being ready to cut "the muscle of our defence", and of propounding a view of the world "that is shaped by the old inconsistencies of the left". Mr Bush said he was convinced the US did not want to move left. He said that would be the choice in the election.

Officials from the Demo-

cratic National Committee, meeting on Mackinac Island in Michigan in the absence of both Mr Dukakis and Mr Jackson, were trying to reconcile opposing views on South Africa, which Mr Jackson wants branded a terrorist nation, and also discussed terrorism.

Mr Jackson is pressing for a tough stand on drugs, big defence cuts and tax increases on the wealthy and big industry. He has warned that, if he is unhappy with the draft, he will take his opposition to the convention in Atlanta next month.

● **BOGOTA:** Mr Dukakis has pledged to work closely with Latin American leaders "to construct a future of democracy and respect for human rights" if he is elected in November (Geoffrey Matthews writes).

In an interview with a Colombian television network on Thursday, Mr Dukakis said he wanted to revive the spirit of President John Kennedy's "Alliance for Progress" initiative in the region and sharply criticized the Reagan Administration's record, particularly in Nicaragua and Panama.

He said US support for the Nicaraguan Contras was "illegal and a disaster", and described Washington's efforts to oust General Noriega of Panama as a "fiasco".

Chinese guard US interests



A Chinese soldier standing guard outside the United States Embassy in Peking yesterday after Chinese authorities revealed that there had been a terrorist threat to Americans by an unidentified "third country". An embassy spokesman said the Chinese Government had urged the mission to inform the estimated 1,500 Americans living in the Chinese capital of the threat (Reuter reports). But the advice subsequently issued by the embassy contained no specific information of a possible attack. An embassy statement spoke of "a genuine threat to American citizens in Peking". It added: "American citizens should avoid locations known to be gathering points for Americans or foreigners, such as certain restaurants, markets and nightclubs." A Western diplomat called the warning "absolutely unprecedented" but declined to speculate on who was making the threat. Americans resident in Peking were formally warned of possible attacks following the US bombing of Tripoli, the Libyan capital, in 1986. China is regarded as one of the safest countries in the context of terrorism.

Media madness leaves French voters unmoved

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

It seemed during the recent presidential election campaign that the faces of M Francois Mitterrand, M Jacques Chirac, M Jean-Marie Le Pen and the others began to haunt people.

They stared out from posters plastered all over the country and aired their views continually on television, radio and in public meetings.

The French were experiencing a campaign where, for the first time, the image appeared to be mightier than the word. It is by no means sure that they liked what they saw. The present parliamentary election campaign has gone in the opposite direction — there is no national publicity campaign to be seen either from the right or the left, apart from M Le Pen.

True, the mere three weeks between President Mitterrand's dissolution of parliament and the two polling days have allowed no time to organize campaigning. But valuable lessons have been drawn on what was seen as a publicity overkill on the part of M Chirac and the skill with which M Mitterrand's more subtle campaign has carried an image of a united France forward into these general elections.

Talking to the often shadowy figures who groom top French politicians a striking difference in approach emerges between M Mitterrand's advisers and those of M Chirac.

It is generally accepted that the French have lost interest in old political divisions in favour of a reassuring figurehead who will guide them through an uncertain world. M Claude Marti, who runs his own successful marketing consultancy agency, has been advising President Mitterrand since 1983 and has been a close friend of the Prime Minister, M Michel Rocard, for 15 years. He says he bases his advice to both on what he hears and sees at grass roots level.

"My relationship with both men is a personal one based on friendship — as a confidential doctor or lawyer might be in a position of trust," he says. Each have their marketing wizards, but M Marti is said to plan strategies.

"I told the President five years ago that the French did not want a partisan head of state — they wanted a President who took care of them all," he said. "We have built on that ever since — you see with what success."

"I am very opposed to publicity. If you just try to create an image in France you come a cropper. The French were very anti-advertising until the eighties when escapism ads began, based on humour and sexual seduction. People found that fun and amusing."

"But, unlike the United States, this form of advertising does not apply to politicians. It would be impossible to treat politicians like products."

"I am a great advocate of media silence," said M Marti. This was shown in M Mitterrand's late declaration on his presidential candidacy, his minimal exposure during that campaign, and the fact that he has handed the low-key general election campaign over completely to M Rocard.

M Chirac, on the other hand, went all out to seduce the electorate. His poster campaign for the presidential elec-

tions was mounted by a leading publicist who handles Club Méditerranée. A bronzed, seductive Chirac appeared to devour people with his eyes. A real-life permanent tan became a feature of his campaign.

"Chirac became a product," says Mme Sylvie Blum, a marketing expert. "French tradition and culture will not stand for that."

Image et Stratégie is a marketing and advertising agency which works exclusively for the conservatives. It is handling the local-level poster and publicity campaigns of about 35 conservative parliamentary candidates. Their director-general, M Jean-Marie Milou, still talks in terms of seduction being the way to reach the French public.

Paris — On the eve of the final round of the French parliamentary election, Mrs Thatcher's flying visit to Paris yesterday for meetings with President Mitterrand and the French Prime Minister, M Michel Rocard, appears to have passed off smoothly (Philip Jacobson writes). After talks over lunch with M Mitterrand at the Elysée Palace, Mrs Thatcher had a short meeting with her opposite number. The main matters discussed in the meeting with M Mitterrand concerned differing approaches to fiscal and financial issues within the European Community. With the European Council meeting in Hanover approaching, the two leaders were said to have devoted most attention to ensuring the free movement of capital between member countries.

However, he admits that recent voting surprises have shown that people do not want change. They voted for M Mitterrand as a paternal protective figure, not as a socialist — "The local campaigns now are based on the reliability of the local man. On a national level it warns against putting all political eggs in one basket by voting in a large socialist majority."

Opinion polls show that the French are frightened that deep-rooted political traditions will be turned into mere slick slogans and, as in the United States, the ability to get a political message across will depend on the money available to do so.

"In France," says Mlle Laurette de Souttrait, director of communication for M Chirac's Rassemblement pour la République party, "it is still the politicians who make all strategy decisions."

As M Rocard puts it: "The professionals that I call on are those who help me to express what I believe, not those who amputate it."

"The art of communication must not degenerate into a 'look', a gadget, a slogan," says M Marti. "Only politicians, says another media man, could have dreamt up the initials URC for the campaign alliance between M Chirac's party and the centre-right Union pour la Démocratie Française."

"The idea of the union is good but the initials sound like a burp."

"Obviously no party chief thought of checking with their communications people first," he says.

Roberto Suro

WORLD ROUNDUP

Students riot for the right to cheat

Dhaka (Reuter) — Nearly 70 people were injured when Bangladesh students, demanding the right to cheat during college final examinations, fought teachers and police with stones and home-made bombs, police said yesterday.

Police fired birdshot, used batons and arrested more than a dozen people while dispersing hundreds of students who ransacked examination centres at Narsingdi, about 30 miles from Dhaka. Police fought running battles with students in more than 100 centres across the country.

The violence erupted when students, protesting against the tight monitoring of examinations, demanded help from friends outside. At some places students attacked teachers with sticks and stones and shouted: "We seek the right to copy," witnesses said.

More than 1,000 students were expelled on the first day of the examinations which began on Thursday, education officials said. They said nearly 500 people were injured in similar clashes during final examinations in March.

Speaker faces inquiry

Washington — The House Ethics Committee is to begin an official inquiry into the financial dealings of the Democratic Speaker, Representative Jim Wright, who is facing six charges of misconduct (Michael Binyon writes).

The preliminary inquiry will be carried out by a 12-member panel, composed equally of Republicans and Democrats, who will investigate allegations against Mr Wright over his use of a paid congressional aide to help write his autobiography, excessive royalties he is said to have earned, and alleged use of influence with the US and Egyptian Governments in 1979 to help two Texas oil ventures. Mr Wright has maintained he has not violated any House ethics rules and says he welcomes the inquiry.

Jail chiefs suspended

Valletta — The head of Malta's civil prison and his chief officer have been suspended and face dismissal after a board of inquiry found that prisoners had been subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment (Austin Sammut writes).

The board's report, published this week, said that the presence in the prison of the director of prisons, Mr Ronald Theuma, and the chief officer, Mr Albert Mulvanui, was incompatible with the way in which prisoners were treated. It alleged that there were regular beatings, deprivation of normal food and basic sanitary facilities, lengthy periods of solitary confinement contrary to prison regulations, that prisoners were deprived of clothes and blankets during the winter and that fights were kept on all night in cells.

East bloc woos EEC

Brussels — The Soviet Union and East Germany have requested full diplomatic relations and an exchange of ambassadors with the European Community, losing no time in following up the declaration of mutual recognition between the EEC and the East bloc economic grouping, Comecon, initiated in Moscow on Thursday (Jonathan Braude writes). Other East European countries have said they expect to follow suit soon. Mr Willy de Clerq, the EEC Commissioner for Trade, welcomed the decision as a contribution to détente.

Shultz warns Nato

Madrid — Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, warned all Nato allies yesterday to keep up their defence spending while continuing negotiations on arms reductions with the Warsaw Pact (Our Foreign Staff writes).

At the Nato foreign ministers meeting in Madrid, Mr Shultz was careful to avoid any harsh criticism of individual allies for failing to take a fair share of the responsibility for keeping the peace in Europe. But he singled out Denmark, which has decided to freeze its defence budget

Tehran and London near accord

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain and Iran yesterday reached "broad agreement" on compensation for damage to each other's embassies, leaving only minor technical points to be settled.

The Foreign Office said the agreement was "on the basis" of Britain's offer to pay Iran £1.8 m for damage caused when the SAS stormed its embassy in 1980 after it had been occupied by a terrorist group. The offer was linked to a British demand for £900,000 compensation for damage to British diplomatic property in Iran during and after the Iranian revolution of 1979.

"We and the Iranians have agreed that we both need more time to consider this further," the statement said. But Whitehall sources said the agreement was "90 per cent in the bag" and that Iran had accepted the main points of the offer. Neither side thought it

necessary to have another round of talks, but there will be further exchanges through diplomatic channels.

Mr Mohammad Mehdi Akhond Zadeh Basti, the Iranian Chargé d'Affaires in London, said as he left the talks that there was agreement on the amounts, but differences remained on the mode of payment. "There is goodwill on both sides," he said.

Britain and Iran appeared to be hoping that the three days of talks would help to improve relations. They were the first real negotiations, apart from visits to the Foreign Office by Mr Basti, since relations were virtually mothballed last June.

Although the fate of British hostages in Beirut was not discussed, colleagues of Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, said they felt encouraged that

the two countries were talking to each other again.

The colleagues were intrigued by a link reported by The Times yesterday between Mr Waite and an Iranian prisoner in Britain who was released by the Home Office last month. An official said it appeared to be a coincidence.

It came about because of two trips made by Mr Waite to Tehran in December 1980 and February 1981 to negotiate the release of British missionaries arrested during the Iranian revolution. He flew back after the second trip with Miss Jean Waddell, secretary to the Bishop of Iran, the Rt Rev H B Dehqani-Tafri, and a couple from the Anglican Church Missionary Society, Dr John Coleman and his wife Mary.

While discussing their release with the Revolutionary Guards, Mr Waite was asked to visit two Iranian prisoners

held on bombing charges in London. He kept the promise and delivered tape recordings of the Koran to an Iranian Consular official who had been permanently blinded by a bomb blast in a London hotel. He also visited a co-defendant, Mr Ebadollah Nooripour, then aged 28, whose uncle had been killed in the blast.

"I had asked the Iranians at Christmas to play the game with our people (the missionaries), and I just wanted to be consistent," Mr Waite said later.

The consular official was subsequently cleared, but Mr Nooripour was jailed for 12 years. As reported yesterday, he was released in May after serving the sentence less one third remission.

The Home and Foreign Offices have said that his release was a routine matter

Briton facing death sentence is freed

By Our Foreign Staff

The Supreme Court in Rangoon yesterday overturned a lower court ruling sentencing a British teacher to death for killing his Malaysian-born wife, after a key witness retracted his testimony.

Thomas Andrew Kirkpatrick, aged 40, of Suffolk, and his Burmese cook, Saw William, aged 42, were convicted last December for the murder of Lynn Kirkpatrick in May, 1986.

The Supreme Court reduced Saw William's sentence to life imprisonment and Mr Kirkpatrick was freed.

At the trial the cook said he had carried out Mr Kirkpatrick's request to kill his wife and burn her body. Her

remains were found in the couple's home in a wealthy Rangoon suburb on May 17, 1986.

The cook said Mr Kirkpatrick was having an affair with a British teacher in Rangoon and his wife was creating problems between them. The cook later retracted the statement, saying he made it under police pressure.

The woman teacher, who worked at the Foreign Language Institute in Rangoon and who was identified only as "Miss Helen", testified to having an affair with Mr Kirkpatrick.

Mrs Kirkpatrick, who was an ethnic Chinese and a British citizen, died two weeks

after she and her baby arrived in Rangoon to join her husband. Mr Kirkpatrick taught English at Rangoon's Institute of Education under the Colombo Plan, in which Britain, Canada and other countries gave aid to poor nations.

Mr Kirkpatrick, from Helions Bumpstead, near Saffron Walden, Essex, was released from his "death row" chalet at Burma's notorious Insein jail.

Mr Kirkpatrick, who always maintained his innocence, appealed on the grounds that vital forensic evidence proving his wife was alive when the fire started had been ignored by the Burmese court.

Defence lawyers argued that

Mrs Kirkpatrick was a heavy drinker and smoker who may have set fire to the house either accidentally or deliberately when she realized her marriage was over.

A Foreign Office spokesman said the appeal court had acquitted Mr Kirkpatrick of killing his wife, and he would be seen by consular officials from the British Embassy.

At the Bell College, Saffron Walden, where Mr Kirkpatrick taught English before he left for Burma, a former colleague, Mr Tony Hopwood, said: "It is wonderful news. No one who knew Andy believed he could have killed his wife. The whole thing has been a bizarre nightmare."

Rome may have been built a day earlier than we thought

Rome (NYT) — In a discovery that might require the rewriting of Ancient Roman history, archaeologists digging on a slope of the Palatine Hill last week unearthed what they believe is the defensive wall that was built when Rome was founded.

The archaeologists say the discovery of the wall, together with other recent finds near by in the Forum, show that Rome emerged as a dynamic society in the 7th and 6th centuries BC, significantly earlier than had been previously calculated.

As a result, the scholars argue for a thorough reassessment of the once common view that the Romans followed the Etruscans to the north and the Greeks to the south in their cultural development. In the new view, early Romans should be depicted as full contributors to the development of city state civilization in Italy, rather than as recipients of the benefits of more advanced cultures.

In addition, in perhaps the most contentious point associated with the discoveries,

some of the archaeologists working here say they have uncovered the first hard evidence to support the legends that the foundation of Rome was a specific historical act. Most contemporary historians, however, dismiss as fable the tale that Romulus founded Rome in 753 BC and built a wall at the place where he and his twin brother, Remus, were suckled by a she-wolf in their infancy.

Much more than ancient dates are at stake in this debate, which has increasingly preoccupied archaeologists

over the past 20 years. It is a matter of when Rome began to be Rome.

The results of the excavation have not yet been published and are known only to a small number of specialists. Much of the recently uncovered material has yet to be fully evaluated, and archaeologists at the site emphasized that their interpretations of the evidence are hypotheses. Scholars elsewhere, when asked for their reaction to the finds, tended to be cautious, if not sceptical, about claims that link the wall to the

founding of Rome. But they enthusiastically welcomed the possibility of developing the first extensive body of archaeological material on the mysterious period from about 800 BC to 500 BC, when Rome moved quickly from a collection of wattle huts to a city of great temples.

Mr Richard Brilliant, professor of art history and archaeology at Columbia University, who visited the site last month, said: "If the hypotheses being developed there are right, and I think in their broad outlines they must

be, then this material will revolutionize our knowledge of Rome during a critical period of its development."

Mr Colin Renfrew, a classical archaeologist at Cambridge University, while enthusiastic about the discovery, cautioned about linking it too closely to the founding of Rome. "Finding a wall there may be very important, but it is not amazing because one would expect to find walls near the hills of Rome," he said.

Tutu stays defiant as Botha tightens gag on his critics

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

President Botha moved yesterday to try to silence, or at least muffle, virtually all radical black opponents of the Government still at large and vocal, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the head of the Anglican Church in southern Africa, and his outspoken fellow clergyman, Dr Allan Boesak of the Dutch Reformed Church.

Archbishop Tutu immediately served notice that he has no intention of going quietly. He issued a statement from his office in Cape Town calling the renewal of the two-year, nationwide state of emergency, which was proclaimed in yesterday's *Government Gazette*, "a pointless and bankrupt exercise".

Under the new state of emergency, which will last for 12 months unless ended sooner by President Botha, all existing curbs on the news media and anti-apartheid individuals and extra-parliamentary organizations are retained, and in some crucial respects they are broadened and tightened.

Justifying the continuation of the emergency, which also gives sweeping powers to the police to arrest and detain

without trial any person deemed a threat to public safety, Mr Botha said that "there still exists a notable revolutionary climate in the country".

A background document released by the Government's Bureau for Information claimed that, while "unrest-related incidents" had decreased during the previous two years of emergency rule, the number of acts of terrorism had gone up, showing that "the revolutionary climate underlying the unrest situation has not been sufficiently combated".

Archbishop Tutu said that the new emergency "does nothing to address the central issue of power-sharing" or "to end the institutionalized violence which is the source of all political violence in South Africa. Instead it creates an atmosphere conducive to more state violence".

Among the new and tougher restrictions is a clause prohibiting quoting any member of an unlawful organization, such as the African National Congress, even if the person concerned is not "listed" (banned). This closes a loophole that previously allowed a number of the

ANC's leaders to be quoted here.

It also becomes an offence for a newspaper to indicate by means of "an express statement or a sign or a symbol" that part of the text of a report has been omitted to comply with the emergency regulations, meaning readers will no longer know when information has been suppressed.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, is also given the power to extend by two months, without further warning, the three-month suspension he can already impose on newspapers deemed to be publishing subversive propaganda.

All previously existing restrictions on news media are renewed, including the ban on unauthorized reporting of unrest and the actions of the security forces.

In practice, foreign correspondents here have until now largely ignored the restrictions. *The Times* will continue to inform its readers when it feels unable to report fully because of the restrictions. Television journalists, physically prohibited from filming scenes of unrest, continue to be severely restricted. Leading article, page 11

Heading towards Arab unity



King Fahd of Saudi Arabia adjusting his headress at the closing session of the Arab League summit in Algiers. During the talks the King pledged support for the Palestinian cause and condemned Iran over the Gulf War. Mr Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, hailed the support of Arab leaders as "a victory for our people inside the occupied territories fighting military occupation" (Reuters reports). Moderates and hardliners among the often-divided Arabs closed ranks behind the PLO to support the uprising. They also condemned US plans for peace as nothing more than a helping hand for

Israel. A jubilant Mr Arafat told a press conference early yesterday that the summit's vote of confidence in the PLO showed that "the Arab world stands behind the Palestinian uprising. The children who throw stones in Palestine say: 'We will fight on.'" he said. Conservative states allied with Iraq secured summit condemnation of Iran, while Libya revelled in the meeting's denunciation of Washington. The 21 member states renewed aid of \$1.9 billion overall to countries bordering Israel. The sum earmarked to bolster the Palestinian uprising was kept secret.

Army thwarts peace mission by Israeli left

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

A peace mission by a left-wing group of Jews, who hoped to plant olive trees in a Palestinian town, was yesterday blocked by the Israeli Army as a security risk.

For the Israeli peace movement, the village of Beitir, near Nablus, has become a symbol of the worst aspects of the occupation. A new committee of left-wing organizations has been formed to try to make Beitir an example of coexistence between Arabs and Jews.

Two months ago an Israeli teenage girl died at the village during a violent clash. She was shot by a man guarding her hiking party when he was hit on the head by a stone after killing two villagers. A crowd had been throwing stones at the hikers. Some of the hikers were injured, although several were rescued by villagers who hid them in their homes.

The girl's death brought swift retribution from the Army. It blew up 15 houses — one of them without legal justification. Many other buildings were damaged. Six villagers were deported and dozens arrested, 30 of whom are still in prison. As a communal punishment the surrounding olive trees, so important to the village, were destroyed.

A report by the Army later condemned the organizers of the hike for not taking adequate precautions, including notifying the military authorities. In future all such events were to be co-ordinated with the Army.

Yesterday's demonstration was not co-ordinated. The trouble was that the organizers failed to think their plan through. They obtained "permission" from the Arabs but failed to get army clearance.

About 50 would-be tree-planters set off from Jerusalem aboard two coaches, carrying hoes and wearing T-shirts with peace slogans. Their leader, Mr Amnon Raz, said: "We want to turn Beitir from a symbol of destruction into a symbol of Arab-Israeli coexistence."

As the buses set off, an army command car fell in behind, running through red lights in its eagerness to keep up. A soldier in a red baseball cap took careful note of the following cars. Five miles up the

road a spiked roadblock was dragged quickly across the road as the convoy approached. Vehicles with both Arab and Israeli plates were waved through, but the road was designated "a closed military area" to the peace party.

Mr Raz argued in vain as a settlers' minibus pulled up and its driver, with a pistol in his belt and a yarmulka on his head, took out a box full of ice lollies and handed them to the troops manning the roadblock. "Well done, boys," he said, scowling at the buses. Mr Raz gave up and turned the convoy back to Jerusalem.

At the East Jerusalem bus station, the group decided to split up, taking separate cars and taxis to try to reach Beitir by different routes. The soldier in the red baseball cap relayed this information over his radio.

On a remote road 10 miles north of Jerusalem, another roadblock was already in place. By now the orders were to turn back all private vehicles not driven by locals.

The way to Beitir was barred, but with three determined young students in the back of our car, we tried to outflank the Army. Deep in the hills behind Ramallah, on a road stained black by burnt tyres and strewn with rocks, it seemed the way might be clear. But the Army was already blocking the essential road junction and waved us up a tiny track in what they knew was the wrong direction.

As we plunged deeper into an area which Palestinians boast as "liberated territory", the youngsters in the back grew more and more nervous. They seemed to breathe easier when we turned back.

But back in the safety of West Jerusalem they promised: "We shall try again. The Arabs must be able to see we can live together."

Home destroyed: Israeli troops yesterday destroyed the home of a Palestinian whom they said confessed to stabbing the Israeli-appointed mayor of El Bireh in the occupied West Bank (Reuters reports). Security sources said Mr Kahmis Araj, aged 26, of Jelazoun refugee camp was arrested during the night and his home was blown up about 12 hours later. He has not yet been charged.

Fraud claims in Sri Lanka poll

From Michael Hamlyn, Colombo

Allegations of widespread rigging by the government party yesterday accompanied the results of a crucial election to create a new provincial council in the deep south of Sri Lanka.

The election, boycotted by the principal opposition party and threatened with murderous violence by a left-wing group of militant Sinhalese gunmen, was part of the devolution of power compelled on the Sri Lankan Government under the terms of last year's accord with neighbouring India.

As a result very few either dared or bothered to vote. But journalists visiting the districts said large numbers of young civilian men toured the area in buses, often carrying shotguns or rifles, and queued at different polling stations to cast numerous votes.

"I spoke to one man who said he had voted 16 times," said Mr Prasanna Hennayaka, a freelance photographer. Mr Qadri Ismail, of the Sri Lankan *Sunday Times*, said: "At a polling station in Devinuwara town, I saw a queue of 25 young men waiting to vote. The presiding officer was not present, and the men were not being marked with indelible ink, as is normal."

"A man who seemed to be in charge refused to let me talk to the men. At the next polling station only 12 people had voted altogether at that time. We saw a large number of

state buses, private buses and private Land-Rovers on the roads, all full of young men like this. There were no other vehicles about, except for journalists and security forces."

Another correspondent saw a similar group of young men descend from a bus in Tangalle town. They were jeered, he said, by local people, who later complained that they had impersonated local people to vote.

Despite this kind of activity reported throughout the three districts of the Southern province, the actual turnout of voters measured by the ballots counted was still unusually low. One district, Hambantota, where the militant extremists are strong, recorded only a 7.8 per cent turnout.

In Matara district the turnout was 20.3 per cent, and in Galle a turnout of 36 per cent took the overall total to only 24.5 per cent — well below the 40 per cent quoted to me beforehand by a senior Cabinet minister as adequate to give the new council credibility.

The ruling United National Party won 35 of the 53 seats on the council. It has now won control of all seven of the provincial councils for which elections have been held.

It only remains for an election to be held in the combined Northern and Eastern provinces for the process of devolution to be complete.

Zimbabwe's gaffe

Harare — The ruling Zanu party's grandiose headquarters in Harare is closer to meeting its building costs, thanks to the proceeds of bouts by a British professional wrestler who, officials say, is to appear on the next sports blacklist of the United Nations special committee on apartheid (Jan Raath writes). Newspapers have reported that although Mr Martin Austin, known as "Giant Haystacks", was not on the UN blacklist, he had fought in South Africa in 1986 and in 1984. Zimbabwe ardently subscribes to the blacklist's implementation. A spokesman for the Zimbabwe Boxing and Wrestling Board of Control said he "definitely did not know" of Mr Austin's South African appearances.

Warning sign

Melbourne (Reuters) — A teenager who broke the drink-driving law in Victoria is to keep his licence but must put a sign on his car for a year warning others that he once drove after drinking.

Jail break

Laval, Quebec (Reuters) — Three convicts shot their way out of a maximum security jail, wounding a guard and taking two hostages.

Mine toll rises

Borken, West Germany (AP) — The discovery of two more bodies in the Borken mine left only one man still missing after the country's worst mining disaster in 26 years.

Lusaka blast

Lusaka (AP) — A bomb went off in a Lusaka suburb near the home of African National Congress officials, injuring a girl aged 12, Zambian police said.

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Managua threatens to curb opposition as Contra talks fail

From David Gollob, Managua

The Sandinista Government has warned that it may clamp down on opposition activity after the collapse of peace negotiations with the Contras.

Those who see the Contras as supermen, as their saviours, will have to be more careful," the Defence Minister, General Humberto Ortega, said after three days of talks failed to turn a temporary ceasefire agreement into a permanent peace.

The Contras said this would be the last round of negotiations they would attend under the terms of the ceasefire pact signed on March 23. However, they insisted that they were still committed to reaching a negotiated solution.

"Sandinistas reject peace," ran the banner headline in the opposition newspaper, *La Prensa*. The paper, an obvious target of General Ortega's threat, said that the Government had spurned the Contras' proposal for reforms.

With only two hours to go before the talks were due to end, the Contras tabled a new set of demands which exceeded by far their previous roughly-worded proposals. The six-page document demanded the resignation of the entire Supreme Court, the

demobilization of tens of thousands of army conscripts, and the liberation within five days of all prisoners in government jails.

Contra forces would have until January 31, 1989, to give up their weapons. By that time elections for a new National Assembly would have to be held. Under this scenario, the Contra army could remain intact throughout the election campaign and only surrender arms once it approved of the result.

General Ortega denounced the proposal as "irrational and extremist".

"The Contras came to Managua with the clear intention of putting an end to the peace talks," the Deputy Foreign Minister, Señor Victor Hugo Tinoco, said. "They presented their proposal only two hours before the end of the meeting. We proposed a date for more talks but they rejected it. They said they would talk in the future, but they mean January next year, after Bush is elected."

Government negotiators were frustrated by the results of the talks because they had been led to believe that a deal was in the works. Mr Paul Reichler, an American lawyer

who represents the US Government and also acts as a consultant in the peace negotiations, surprised journalists by disclosing that he had held a series of secret, parallel talks with the Contras' chief negotiator, Señor Alfredo César. "There was an agreement reached with Alfredo César," he said, "which the Government was advised, through me, by Alfredo, would lead to the signing of an agreement by a majority of the (Contra) directors. The Government has fulfilled every one of those conditions now — in writing. And unfortunately Alfredo has been unable to deliver."

Mr Reichler said Señor César had admitted that the rebels' military commander, Colonel Enrique Bermudez, was the obstacle to an agreement. Señor César agreed that he had held private meetings with Mr Reichler, but rejected the story of a secret pact.

● SAN JOSE: Colonel Bermudez, who arrived in the Costa Rican capital yesterday, called for a resumption of American military aid for the Contras. Rebel negotiators flew here after the talks collapsed.

Wave of student violence rocks Seoul

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

Militant students turned Seoul into a battleground yesterday when they tried in vain to fight their way out of the city for a meeting with North Korean students in a forbidden military zone on the border.

Riot police blockaded thousands of them on a university campus and beat off hundreds more besieging bus and railway stations.

The students, angered by the lack of official contacts with North Korea, took matters into their own hands by arranging talks with a 13-member mission from the Kim Il Sung University in Pyongyang. The Government, while publicly sympathizing with their motives, insisted that it should direct any such initiatives and banned the meeting.

The heaviest fighting was waged around Yonsei University in western Seoul. After parading around the campus for several hours chanting slogans, about 5,000 students gathered at the main entrance and jeered at police.

They made no attempt to march out on their intended journey to the zone. Instead, stones and petrol bombs were hurled at the police as dozens of youths wearing T-shirts proclaiming them to be the "vanguard of reunification" sprang towards them. A moment of unbridled savagery followed as the students beat the officers with metal pipes and wooden staves until being driven back by clubs, shields and volleys of tear gas.

Other groups mounted simi-



Students, with faces covered by scarves to counter tear gas, attacking riot police near Seoul's Yonsei University yesterday.

lar assaults at several points along a wide front, but the outnumbered police stood their ground. The battle raged for several hours. Serious casualties appeared to be relatively few, but at least one youth was carried away senseless and bleeding.

Meanwhile, several hundred students besieged Seoul's central railway station and the

area was rapidly shrouded in clouds of tear gas. Instead of attacking the police, many lay on the ground chanting slogans and were promptly seized by special snatch squads.

Last night hundreds of students were converging on an area of northern Seoul at the start of the main highway heading north. None got anywhere near Panmunjom, the

truce village deep within the forbidden military zone that had been chosen as the site for the planned meeting.

The violence was arguably the worst since President Roh took office at the head of a democratic administration in February, but it clearly failed to gain public support. Even in the universities, the militants represented only a tiny frac-

tion of a student population of almost a million. The students' demands range from discussions and sports meetings with North Korean students to the expulsion of US forces in South Korea. More ominously for the Olympics, they support Pyongyang's bid to co-host the Games, an idea which has been rejected by the organizers.

Tensions in Fiji

Indian farmer held after arms cache is found

From Humphrey Hawksley, Lautoka, Fiji

An Indian pig farmer awarded an MBE for services to agriculture is in police custody in this seaside town as police continue their investigation into weapon caches found in the area in the past week.

Mr Saha Deo is one of 21 Fijian Indians charged in connection with the arms, which police say were smuggled in in April and were discovered last weekend. A similar consignment was found by Australian authorities in Sydney late last month.

"We were all sleeping at about 1 am when the Army came here," said Mr Deo's daughter, Suman. "They went upstairs with their guns and told dad that he was being arrested."

Weapons buried in a palm grove in a neatly kept garden

She said the soldiers returned in the early hours of Monday and found a cache of arms in the garden of the farm, which is about a mile up a dirt track from the main coast road. The weapons were buried in a palm grove in Mr Deo's neatly kept garden.

The police have not detailed what they recovered from Mr Deo's property, but the shipment included automatic weapons, more than 45,000 rounds of ammunition and rocket launchers.

In a country which even after two coups remains largely peaceful, such a shipment could have caused havoc between the native community and the Indians, who are now in a slight majority. Their ancestors were brought here under British colonial rule.

Mr Deo, aged 47, is the epitome of what Fijian nationalists describe as the threat of the Indians in Fiji. He is wealthy and successful, diversifying from sugar cane into pig farming in 1972. His business is run by his Indian-style extended family.

Mr Deo has pleaded not guilty to the charges. His family say the arms may have been hidden by one of the many delivery men who come and go throughout the day. There is an added contradiction in that Mr Deo was a long-time supporter of the founding Prime Minister of Fiji, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, who was defeated by the mainly Indian Government in the elections last year.

Mr Deo was deterred by the socialist label pinned on that Government. With the military takeover, Ratu Mara is again Prime Minister in an interim government, which is meant to write a new constitution which would guarantee power to the Fijians.

A few miles along the coast in the pretty village of Viseisei, Ratu Mara's predecessor, Dr Timoci Bavadra, spent yesterday with workmen building his new house. Its design is tribal Fijian, made of indigenous reeds and wood. His present house is a bungalow, humble for a former Prime Minister. Dr Bavadra adds to the complexity of Fiji's problems because he says he is a staunch nationalist.

His wife, Andi Kuini, is the daughter of a tribal chief and

his motive for building a new house is not so much to move to more plush accommodation, but to send a message to extremists who cheered when his government was overthrown. "They accuse me of being responsible for the erosion of Fijian tradition and custom. Look at this — I am upholding tradition and custom."

Dr Bavadra, aged 53, is a medical doctor and was a senior civil servant until as late as 1985, when he and several political colleagues formed the Labour Party. Two years later they took power with a coalition government after a clean election. Although Dr Bavadra is a Fijian, most of his Cabinet were Indians. For many Fijians, such as Brigadier-General Sitiveni Rabuka, it was too much.

Dr Bavadra says he is still campaigning with the people in the villages to win their support — and, of course, regain some sort of power. But that is unlikely. More than a year after the military takeover, friendly but initially angry foreign governments, such as Australia and Britain, are taking a more pragmatic view, mainly that there is a complex communal problem in Fiji which is going to take many years to solve.

The Prime Minister, Ratu Mara, supported by men such as Mr Deo, is a moderating force, but a reluctant one. He did not want to go back to government but, it is said, he realized his experience was needed. He has shown little interest during this latest arms crisis. As it began, he left for

Rabuka learning fast as politician, visionary, celebrity

Hawaii on what was described as a private visit. It is no secret who is running the country in his absence — Brigadier Rabuka, the Home Minister in the interim Government. And Brigadier Rabuka, aged 39, is learning fast, as a politician, a visionary and a celebrity.

His book *No Other Way*, which explains his actions of the past year, is being promoted with signed posters of the muscular coup leader dressed in a singlet, with a gold neck-chain and a diver's watch on the wrist. He describes the military takeover as "a mission that God has given me" and as a Methodist preacher has spoken of converting the Indian community to Christianity.

Politically Brigadier Rabuka is finding his feet. He leans heavily on Ratu Mara for advice. "I call him Minister, not General, to remind him he's part of a civilian government," said one diplomat.

Military officer or Home Minister, Brigadier Rabuka says he wants to hand over power and go back to the barracks. But that is as unlikely as Dr Bavadra regaining the prime ministership.

"He'll be around for a long time," said one local businessman. "I've argued it out with him many times. The simple fact is that he started it, so he's got to finish."

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PEACE IN A WASTELAND?

Suddenly, South Africa has begun to slip the fetters imposed by the State of Emergency. As that emergency was extended into its third year, Pretoria was being battered by a series of events designed to re-focus world attention on the struggle for black liberation. The three-day stayaway called by South Africa's major black trade unions — a protest against new labour legislation — is being followed today by a pop concert at Wembley Stadium to mark Nelson Mandela's birthday. The BBC is due to broadcast the concert live for eight hours.

Some people will regard the pop spectacular as a worthy attempt to raise international consciousness. Others will be offended by this latest manifestation of the new banality which yokes pop music extravaganzas to political crises or national suffering and trivializes serious issues. Yet others have questioned the BBC's connection with an event where the funds raised will certainly find their way, however indirectly, into the coffers of the ANC. This is an organization which this week pledged itself once again to the use of terror against a civilian population.

These are serious arguments, but they overlook the thrust behind events which seek to reawake the slumbering sense of crisis about South Africa and give fresh impetus to a campaign based on a false premise. The assumption that international pressure must inevitably bring down the white citadel of South Africa and cleanse the world of apartheid is profoundly misguided.

Manipulation is inherent in many political events, but it is particularly blatant in this case. Support for the trade union stayaway in South Africa was by no means as universal or coherent as its advocates have claimed. Its justification — the unions argue that the proposed legislation rolls back 10 years of trade union advance — begins on closer inspection to look a little threadbare. However sloppily drafted, the Bill is benign compared with Mrs Thatcher's attempts to curtail union powers.

The timing of the labour stayaway and the scale and publicity of the Mandela concert, however, acquire a new significance when one

looks across the Atlantic. Here are congressmen and senators supporting a Bill which would enact the most severe sanctions ever applied by one nation against another in peacetime.

They have made no secret of their belief that anti-apartheid activists will have to keep the spotlight on South Africa — and try to provoke a response from Pretoria — if the Bill is to be guaranteed free passage through an overburdened Senate in an election year. With the House of Representatives due to vote on the Bill before the end of the month, June and its emotive anniversaries — including that of the 1976 Soweto uprising — could be critical.

If passed, the Bill would effectively sever all American links, and thus influence, with South Africa. It would further impoverish that country's black citizens, enrich those whites with the funds to buy out departing American companies and frighten others into joining Dr Andries Treurnicht behind the barricades of far-right prejudice. It would also erode still further the middle ground on which black and white South Africans must meet if either is to survive.

This week, that middle ground grew a little as 65 per cent of the work force of the huge Anglo-American Corporation defied black trade union instructions and accepted the company's share offer to employees. This week, too, the state-owned transport system finally, if belatedly, scrapped apartheid signs throughout its network. These are comparatively insignificant gains compared with demands for negotiations between the country's white and black leaders, the suspension of the State of Emergency and the introduction of true democracy in South Africa.

Nevertheless, giving the black population greater economic power and continuing to chip away at racial discrimination constitute the only realistic agenda for genuine and lasting change in South Africa. They are likely to be far more effective than either pop music extravaganzas or the actions of American supporters of sanctions who would create a wasteland and call it peace.

THE CHURCH DIVIDED

As the Church of England approaches its latest synodical crisis over the ordination of women, the fog of ecclesiastical civil war is beginning to obscure and complicate the issues. New questions are arising while old ones have not yet been fully resolved and, as questions pile upon questions, the whole process could grind to a halt just because no one can take it all in.

The General Synod has to debate next month a thorough résumé of the fundamental theology behind the ordination of women. The document has been prepared by a committee of bishops, and the synod will have to discuss the complexities of the eccumenical dimension. It will then examine the shape of the legislation which would permit women priests and the terms of compensation to be offered to clergy who choose to resign rather than accept it.

The questions — "Whether?", "When?", "How?" and "What then?" — will all be discussed at more or less the same time. As a consequence, they are unlikely to be addressed separately or answered on their merits. Soon afterwards, the Lambeth Conference will explore yet another new topic to add to the confusion, concerning women bishops.

The Church would usefully clarify its mind if it were to accept that it must now choose between two alternatives, and cannot choose them both. It cannot ordain women to the priesthood and at the same time preserve the church's internal unity: one will have to be sacrificed as the price to be paid for the other.

It is the refusal so far to face that painful fact which has resulted in the accumulation of unresolved questions, some of which now rest upon a whole series of hypothetical assumptions. If it is right in principle to ordain women, and if it is right to do so now, and if it is right to allow individual bishops or parishes to opt out while remaining in office, is it then right to offer compensation to those who will

not accept that compromise? It looked for some time as if the first of these questions at least had been finally answered by the favourable decision of the General Synod in 1975; but the commissioning of a fresh report on the fundamental theological issues last year reopened even that issue. That report from the House of Bishops, now it is published, solves nothing.

The exercise was a monument to their faith in sweet reason, and to the belief that intelligent people sitting down round a table can, if they talk long enough, agree about everything. But, for all their patience and learning, the bishops for and against women priests are as far apart as ever. Although they have listened to each other more openly than before, neither side has gained any real ground.

What they have made clearer than before is how utterly irreconcilable they are, and why. To call such a report unanimous, as the bishops themselves are doing, is a particularly Anglican use of the word: Napoleon and Wellington were just as unanimous at Waterloo.

The General Synod should not be asked to grapple with four difficult things at once in an inevitably acrimonious atmosphere when the stakes are so high. It should insist on taking one issue at a time, settling it, and then moving to the next. But the synod's constitution allows it to make provisional decisions by simple majority, and then to proceed through all the processes of drafting and agreeing legislation before reaching a formal verdict by a two-thirds vote at the final stage, years later.

This merely postpones difficult choices as long as possible, while maximizing the pain, damage and confusion. That difficult choices are now inevitable is the one conclusion the synod can confidently draw from the bishops' report; the sooner they are faced the better.

THERE WAS AN OLD MAN...

It's nice still to have Mr Lear
in his death's centenary year
The Master of verse
Both comic and terse
That charms the English cloth ear.

Edward Lear, who died 100 years ago and who has just been admitted to the top table of Poets' Corner, represented a peculiarly English art form. In spite of its name, what he wrote was not strictly Nonsense Verse. It is a parody of sense, as seen through childish eyes.

At least since the Victorian revolution, the English have been embarrassed to show emotion. They have preferred to take their verse light and childlike, hanging on to nurse for fear of something worse.

Lear hit upon the line that took him to the Abbey by making up nonsense to entertain the children of his patron, the 13th Earl of Derby, while engaged in drawing his menagerie at Knowsley. In the same way, Charles Lutwidge Dodgson made up a story for the daughters of the Dean of Christ Church, and woke to find himself alarmingly famous for something other than mathematics.

Lear did not even invent the facetious jingle with which his name is indissolubly linked. The first examples of the limerick are found in *The History of Sixteen Wonderful Old Women and Anecdotes and Adventures of Fifteen Gentlemen* published when he was eight. The name comes from a Victorian party game, in which everybody in turn had to sing an extemporized nonsense-verse, after each of which the next victim was summoned up blushing with the chorus, "Will you come up to Limerick?"

Lear's limericks are inchoate, with the first and last lines ending with the same word. His illustrations of his Nonsenses are clichés of a skilled draughtsman, not much interested in humans, sound on animals and particularly birds, with people turning into cheerful harpies

with birds' legs and vestigial wings. What he was really good at was painting and drawing romantic foreign parts towards the eastern end of the Mediterranean.

And yet, and yet — under the childish Nonsense there is proper poetry as well as frivolity that suits the English distaste for emotion. The Jumbles off on their madcap jaunt are masking a poem of nostalgia and adventure in romantic foreign lands of a very Victorian sort. Beneath the linguistic fantasy and verbal inventiveness there is melancholy and elegiac loneliness that Housman would recognize. "The Yonky-Bongy-Bo" is a torch song of unrequited love. "There was an old man of Whitehaven/Who danced a quadrille with a raven/They said: 'It's absurd/To encourage this bird-/So they smashed that old man of Whitehaven.'" The mob does not like eccentricity or those who are not one of it.

"There was an old fellow of Bow/Whom nobody happened to know/So they gave him some soap/And said coldly: 'We hope/You will go back directly to Bow.'" Victorian values were snobbish about introductions, and put boundaries in their proper place — outside. "The Dong with a Luminous Nose" is another marvellous blues number of frustration and lost love.

Lear was a lonely man, an outsider and an epileptic. He had been persuaded that attacks were brought on by what Victorians described as the solitary vice, and his "lack of will power". Freudian exegetes have analysed the Pobble whose toes disappeared when the scarlet wrapper was taken away, as a sad echo of the threat made to small boys who indulged in such beastliness.

It is not necessary to dive so deep into textual analysis to agree that Edward Lear, as well as adding to the gaiety of nations, is a proper poet of a kind that is unique to England. He deserves his place with Shelley and Byron.

An invitation to visit Britain

From Mrs Moira Stramentov

Sir, I have been trying for half a year to invite my Russian sister-in-law to stay with us for a few weeks. If she ever comes it will be months hence, not because of difficulties from the Soviet authorities, as everyone presumes, but because of a politically and morally indefensible agreement the Foreign Office made with the Soviets a few years ago.

Before the agreement one invited a Soviet relative by sending an invitation, authenticated by a solicitor, to the relative in Russia who applied to the Soviets for an exit visa and then to the British Embassy for a visa. This took time, but not six months, and is still the practice of other countries.

Under the new agreement I had to apply to the Home Office in Croydon for a form. This took over a month to arrive. It demanded, besides the usual information, my "net monthly income and total expenditure on rent, rates, mortgage, credit repayments and other living expenses" with "evidence such as recent original bank statements and wage slips".

This information, the accompanying paper stressed, would be passed on to the Soviet authorities. Why the British should pass on such information about British subjects I cannot understand.

After a delay of several months the Home Office informed me that my relation would be granted a visa and sent a statutory declaration to be signed under oath and sent to the Foreign Office to be forwarded to the British Embassy in Moscow who would give it to my sister-in-law. This paper would enable her to apply to the Soviet authorities for permission to visit this country.

Six weeks later the Foreign Office had not forwarded the declaration as they had not received accompanying forms from the Home Office. I was told that the Home Office had run out of the forms. I felt I must be in Moscow.

As my sister-in-law has been promised a visa, I presumed that this would be granted as soon as the required exit visa from the Soviets. Instead the British Embassy will refer the application to the Home Office who will require confirmation from me that I still wish to invite her. This will take another six months.

She cannot believe the British are so bureaucratic and incompetent and believes we do not wish to see her.

Yours faithfully,
MOIRA STRAMENTOV,
Gurtington House,
Woodland,
Ashburton,
Devon.
June 1.

After 'Tumbledown'

From Mr Thomas R. Osborne

Sir, The screening of *Tumbledown* on BBC television and subsequent coverage of the controversy in the press has once again highlighted the totally inadequate facilities in this country for the rehabilitation of the brain injured.

Any member of a family with a brain-injured victim will immediately recognise the attitude of the professionals towards the patient and family as being far from fiction.

There are woefully few specialist rehabilitation units within the NHS and those that exist suffer from lack of proper resources.

In consequence the majority of the victims remain on orthopaedic wards, where they are regarded as disruptive to the ward routine and are eventually discharged from hospital to be cared for by a family who receive little if any support

Debt subsidy as brake on growth

From the Chairman of 3i Group plc

Sir, To attempt a comparison of 3i and KfW, as Sir Charles Villiers does (June 8) in order to draw a larger conclusion about the relative successes of the British and German economies is invidious. It also diverts attention from some fundamental issues in the relative economic and investment performance of the UK and Germany.

To dispose of the 3i/KfW question first. The purpose and roles of the two institutions are totally dissimilar and they can only properly be viewed in the context of the finance systems of which they are part.

3i is a highly specialised instrument of market substitution, providing long-term debt and equity capital for companies which, for whatever reason, have no access to the capital markets. KfW, on the other hand, is essentially a wholesale institution for raising and distributing credit, more centrally placed and fundamental to the whole German credit system.

The main point at issue, however, is how much debt an economy can sustain without excessive risk. Both the German and Japanese Governments have been successful in so controlling their own monetary affairs that acceptable and stable economic growth has been possible with minimal inflation.

Against such a background their respective corporate sectors have been able to accept levels of gearing which would have destroyed companies in more vol-

atile economies. Indeed, it is possible to argue that it is only the existence of our active equity market which in the earlier years allowed UK industry to survive and more recently made it possible to shed the expensive debt burden and prosper.

Sir Charles's implicit argument for interest subsidy would have carried real weight at a time when the UK Government was dominating the savings market to finance its own needs and was forced to raise interest rates to crippling levels in order to do so.

But today, when both the corporate and public sectors are liquid, Government is no longer hogging the debt market and the corporate sector has a free choice about how much debt to take on. For the first time in many years an investment boom is under way, financed as it always should be, by whatever combination of debt and equity is appropriate to the company.

In such a situation the interest cost is merely one element determining the proportion of capital expenditure to be financed from a company's equity resources as opposed to new credit. With corporate gearing now down to 5 per cent of total capital we are in an unprecedented era where financial orthodoxy (rather than the credit-driven German and Japanese systems) can work to optimise return on capital with minimal economic risk.

Yours truly,
JOHN CLUCKNEY, Chairman,
3i Group plc,
91 Waterloo Road, SE1.
June 9.

Jews in Lebanon

From the President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews

Sir, Robert Fisk's moving report (June 10) on the sad plight of the tiny Jewish community in Lebanon coincides with an urgent plea that I have received from Mr Joseph Mizrahi, its acting head. Mr Mizrahi refers to the discussions which are taking place this week in London between HM Government and Iranian representatives. Whilst both sides claim that they are not negotiating about hostages, a solution to this problem could be a by-product of these talks.

We have urged Sir Geoffrey Howe to do whatever is possible to secure the release of the Lebanese Jewish hostages who are still alive and the return of the bodies of those whom the Iranian-controlled organisations may have executed.

For Great Britain to provide its good offices in this matter would be in the best humanitarian traditions of our country. Yours faithfully,
LIONEL KOPELOWITZ,
President,
Board of Deputies of British Jews,
Woburn House,
Tavistock Square, WC1.

Homework at school

From Mrs Frances Aitken

Sir, As the mother of six daughters, I cannot agree with Mr E. Armitage's letter (June 8) that homework is an unnecessary chore.

From the age of six onwards, my daughters were given a small amount of homework, increasing to two or three subjects by the age of eleven. This taught them the importance of self-discipline and gave them the ability to work on their own, unsupervised. In my view this is an essential part of mental training for adulthood.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCES AITKEN,
212 Ashley Gardens, SW1.
June 8.

From Mr M. R. Loewy

Sir, An hour's homework at school at the end of the normal timetable (June 8) was exactly what happened at our excellent "prep" day-school in Brondesbury in the 20s. Most of the boys' parents took advantage of this facility for the pupils and so, at the end of lessons, we all trooped down to the basement dining-room for tea and buns and then settled down to an hour's work on our own as a matter of course.

At the end of that every day we were free — and even got home just in time for Children's Hour on the wireless.

Yours faithfully,
M. R. LOEWY,
44 The Ridgeway,
Kenton, Harrow,
Middlesex.
June 8.

Choir losses

From the Head Master of Leicester Grammar School

Sir, Mr Andrew Fairbairn, who is the former Chief Education Officer for Leicestershire, has drawn attention in your columns (June 7) to the sad decline in choral singing in schools.

He himself should be aware of one contributory factor which has been at work in this county. The disastrous division between middle and upper schools, falling as it does at 14-plus, has in effect separated the boy trebles in one school from the tenors and basses in another.

Good choral singing flourishes best in an all-through school. Fortunately, we have pupils from 10-plus to 18-plus and have therefore in recent years been able to cover a wider range of choral

Night out at the Opera House

From Mr John Holmes

Sir, So Jonathan Miller (Saturday, May 28) thinks that the first thing the Royal Opera House must do is to get rid of the audience in its present form. My wife and I are members of that audience. We pay for our own tickets and are very mindful that we can afford to do so only because of the subsidy.

Miller also speaks condescendingly of "uncomprehending Japanese" spending their expense accounts. Is he not aware of the developing appreciation of western music by the Japanese and that there are excellent Japanese singers and musicians? We have often sat behind groups of Japanese at Covent Garden and have seen them to be intensely interested and absorbed in what was being staged.

We also resent the implication that we are uneducated morons for not being fully aware of all the nuances of Italian, German and Russian opera sung in the original language. We welcome surtitles in their ability to prod one's memory and bring out the subtleties that can be missed if one is not word perfect in the libretto.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HOLMES,
13 Heathfield Park, NW2.
May 31.

Hungary today

From Miss Nora Beloff

Sir, In his dispatch from Budapest (May 23), Mr Richard Bassett defines the experience accumulated by the peoples of eastern Europe, particularly the Hungarians, pointing to the incompatibility between one party rule and an internationally competitive market economy.

Mr Bassett has not stopped to reflect on the security of a system which, having renounced the methods of the police state, nevertheless excludes from public life the majority of Hungary's educated classes who, almost certainly, are neither Marxist nor Leninist and therefore have no role in "socialist pluralism".

Mrs Thatcher and her ministers have always preferred to dodge the fundamental question of whether the free enterprise system, to which they are dedicated, can function within the framework of Soviet-type political institutions. Surely *The Times*, without the same political constraints, should be readier to confront reality?

Your leader (also May 23) fudges the issue. Admitting that "economic reform can go no further without impinging on the power and influence of the Communist Party", it ignores the evidence that Mr Grosz, like Mr Gorbachov, was elected into office by the party itself, not to demolish but to preserve its authority.

In this endeavour both need western sympathy and assistance. Mr Bassett's unconditional endorsement of Mr Grosz will be disappointing to our real friends in eastern Europe who are currently, and often at great risk to themselves, challenging party supremacy. Sincerely,
NORA BELOFF,
11 Belsize Road, NW6.

works from Beethoven's *Mass in C to Noye's Fludde*.

We have a close connection with the cathedral, whose leading trebles we share, and performed *Mozart's Mass in D* there on Ascension Day morning, as well as in two other city churches since.

This outward-looking approach can only have a revivifying effect on inner-city parishes, which are often hard-pressed to provide their own choirs, especially in the upper registers. We have also produced a record of our choral work in a local church, which has been well received, as showing what an all-through school can do. Yours sincerely,
JOHN HIGGINBOTHAM,
Headmaster,
Leicester Grammar School,
Applegate, Leicester.
June 7.

All the elevens

From Mr Thomas Lort-Phillips

Sir, Mrs Megroz Lord's letter (May 30) prompts me to highlight further evidence of the influence of the calendar on twin births.

My father was born in May 1911. My twin brother and I were born on March 22, 1944, when my father was in his 33rd year. In due course, my wife (who is also a twin) and I had twin daughters ourselves. They were born on July 22, 1977. Now it is 1988, and I am 44, our daughters will be 11, and my father would have been 77, giving 33 years between generations.

What of the future? Yours faithfully,
THOMAS LORT-PHILLIPS,
Garron Farm,
Lawrenny, Kilgilly, Dyfed.

From Mr Ian Oster

Sir, Mrs Patricia Young (June 7) may not have noticed, but even her address (143 Cranmer Court) is a multiple of 11!

Yours faithfully,
IAN OSTER,
59 Brooklands Road,
Prestwich, Manchester.

From Mr William Essex
Sir, I could not resist counting the words in Mrs Young's letter today. All told (your title included), there were 66.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM ESSEX,
30 Bramham Gardens, SW5.
June 7.

Solicitors in court

From Mr T. B. Harrison

Sir, Lord Denning (May 24) makes an uncharacteristic error when he asserts that a solicitor "is protected because he is instructed counsel". A solicitor is not necessarily protected if he instructs counsel who turns out to be incompetent.

In the case of *Re A (a minor)* reported in your own newspaper on February 25, 1988, the Court of Appeal ordered a firm of solicitors to pay personally their client's costs in respect of abortive hearings. The court held that it is the solicitor's duty to ensure that counsel instructed on their client's behalf is competent.

Some may think it harsh indeed that the solicitor not only foots the bill for his own incompetence (and who would argue with that?) but also for that of counsel. An unforeseen consequence of this decision may also be a reluctance by solicitors to instruct inexperienced counsel. This would hardly seem in the best interests of young barristers eager for experience. Yours faithfully,
TOM HARRISON,
64 Regent Street, Cambridge.

Waiting time

From Mr Adrian Brodtkin

Sir, I suggest that Mr Narindar Saroop (June 3) follows the excellent example set by the late Sir Thomas Beecham in standing on the table and clapping two plates together, after having been kept waiting at his table for some 20 minutes at London's Savoy Hotel. Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN BRODKIN,
93 Kingsley Way, N2.

Watchdog reforms

From the Secretary of the Commission for Local Administration in England

Sir, The article by your Legal Affairs Correspondent (May 19) "Watchdog reforms sought", commenting on the report "Administrative Justice: Some Necessary Reforms", calls for correction.

Since May 24 this year a complainant has been able to choose whether to make his complaint direct to the local ombudsman, or ask a councillor to do so on his behalf. This change was included in the Local Government Act 1988 which received royal assent in March.

The article also quoted the report as stating that "of 160 reports issued by ombudsmen on March 31, 1986, 120 'ended in failure'". This is incorrect. In the 12 years between 1974 when the local ombudsman service began and March 31, 1986, the local ombudsmen issued 1,827 reports in which they found maladministration by an authority causing injustice to the complainant. In 103 of these cases, the authority did not agree to provide the remedy required by the local ombudsmen, so these cases could be said to have "ended in failure".

By March 31, 1988, the number of reports in which maladministration and injustice was found had increased to 2,258 and in 129 of these the authority failed to provide the remedy required by the local ombudsmen. Yours faithfully,
GORDON ADAMS, Secretary,
Commission for Local Administration in England,
21 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
May 26.

GCSE standards

From Mr D. C. Gaunt

Sir, Dr Shaw must not think that it is only in mathematics that standards have declined with the introduction of the GCSE.

Having marked GCE English Literature papers for 26 years, I was rather taken aback on seeing in the proposed syllabus for that subject in GCSE the substitution of the *Diary of Adrian Mole* for the works of Chaucer.

Yours faithfully,
D. C. GAUNT,
Mynydd Dir,
Bryngwyn,
Newcastle Emlyn, Dyfed.
June 7.

Lateral thinking

From Dr M. J. Pucci

Sir, What is wrong with a fluorescent painted, single or double vertical line on the kerb edge, placed at regular intervals to designate a no parking area (letter, June 1)?

It would define the pavement/road edge, making it easier to see for both elderly pedestrians and motorists at night. The eyecore factor would be reduced and the excuse of parking on "snow-covered" lines would be less plausible. Yours faithfully,
M. J. PUCCI,
110 Ness Circle,
Elton, Aberdeenshire.

June 11-17, 1988

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

As Dublin marks up a millennium, Patrick O'Hanlon unpicks fact from golden fancy in the intricate brocade of its history

A jig to the music of time

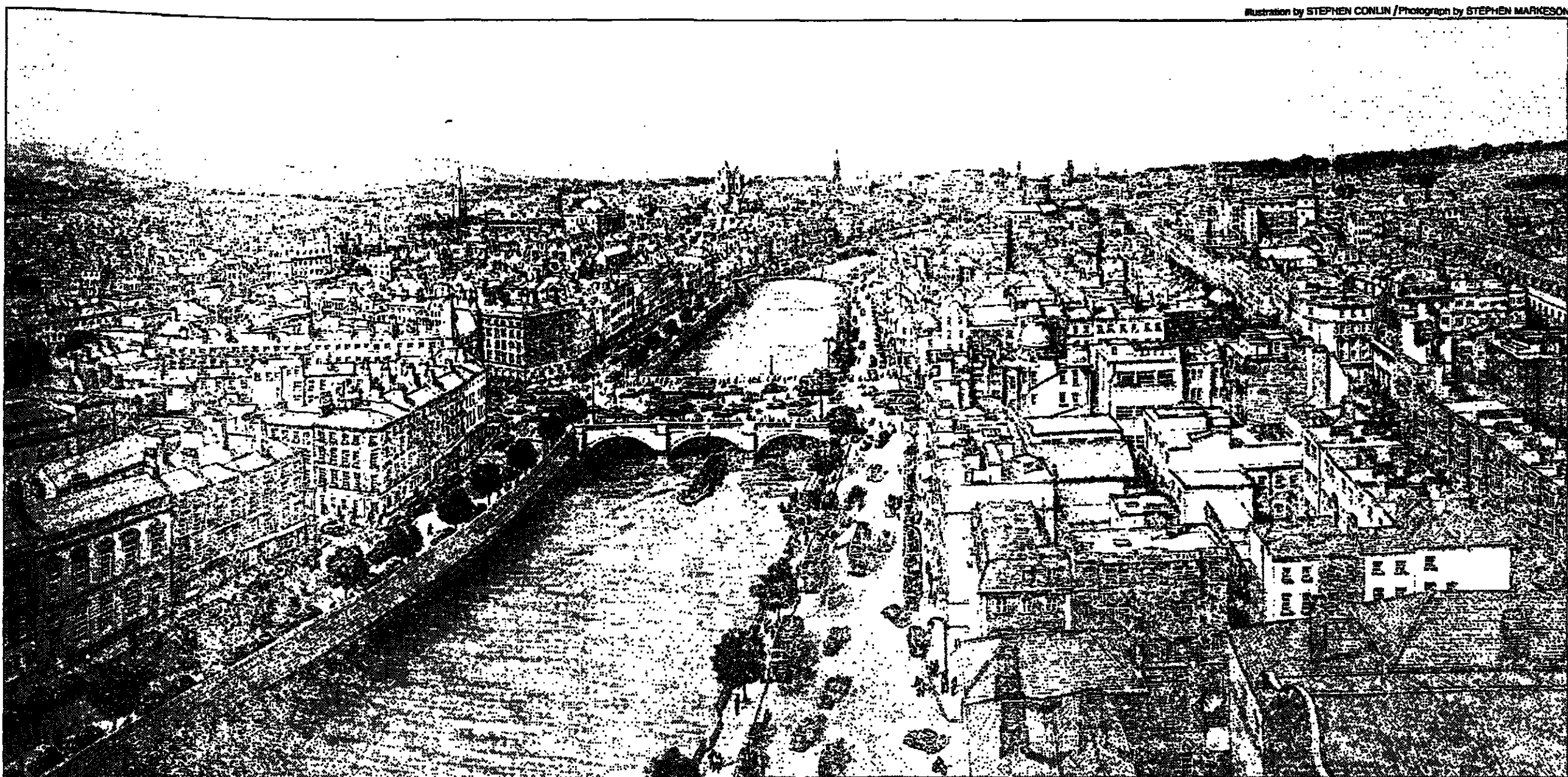


Illustration by STEPHEN CONLIN / Photograph by STEPHEN MARKESON

Given fair weather, no place can look brighter, livelier, or more lovely than the city of Dublin, whose ample squares, noble public buildings, not to mention the surpassing beauty of its environs, once entitled it to rank as the second city of the Empire.

Unlike many a sprawling capital city, Dublin's soul can be easily embraced. And its rich and colourful past is this year being marked by its inhabitants in year-long celebrations of its millennium. But the year 988, apart from making this year 1,000 later, is of no obvious significance. Dublin is at least 2,000 years old, while others insist that the millennium, like the end of the world, has not yet arrived.

Nor has Dublin always been the country's capital. Gazing beyond the Celtic mists, that honour rests with Tara, royal residence of the High Kings. The land echoed then to the

roar of Conn of the Hundred Battles; of Congachas Mac Daire, who ravaged with impunity because no weapons could harm him; of one-eyed Scarbhan the Surly, guardian of the magic tree, squatting at its foot by day and sleeping in its branches by night; of Balor of the Evil Eye, the god of death; and of Cúchulainn, the Irish Achilles. There is not the same roaring these days.

The earliest reference to Dublin can be attributed to the earth-is-the-centre-of-the-universe Ptolemy who, in AD 150, unfurled his map, put a pin in Dublin, and called it Eblana.

The city's name is a compound of two Gaelic words, reflecting the peat-tinged waters of the Liffey (*dubh*: black, and *linn*: pool) — another mystery in a language which places adjectives after nouns thereby giving us Lindub. At the lowest ford stood a village called Baile Atha Cliath, "the town of the hurdle ford", and this is the title preferred by Irish nationalists.

Thereafter, the annals remain blank until the arrival of the Danes in the ninth cen-

tury, and the start of the terrible raids that had the monks in their monasteries praying: "From the fury of the Norsemen, good Lord, deliver us." But it was of the fury of the Norsemen, and not of Celtic Ireland, that the city of Dublin was born.

The Danes varied the monotony of being defeated by the native Irish by inflicting serious reverses upon the English, thus showing how important a part Ireland, and Dublin in particular, was destined to play for weal or woe in the fortunes of the sister kingdom.

Thus, the first Dubliners were a foreign garrison, as Dubliners have often been since. Dublin's fresh-faced, flaxen-haired women have the

Old Dublin City there is no doubtin' Bates every city upon the say. 'Tis there you'd hear O'Connell spoutin' And Lady Morgan making tay. For 'tis the capital of the finest nation. With charmin' pisintry upon a fruitful sod, Fightin' like devils for conciliation, And hatin' each other for the love of God.

Dane in their complexions yet, Dubliners' voices lilt, each phrase appended with a "so": "Have I not told you that before, so? I have, so!"

Invasions remained in vogue ever after, incultating a military training and a fondness

for fighting which is still a characteristic of some of the inhabitants.

Englishmen under Strongbow occupied the city in 1170, and Henry II paid a visit two years later to grant the city to the citizens of Bristol to

colonize. In 1210, King John, of fond memory, established law courts, erected a mint, and incorporated the region's townlands as the English Pale. Danger lurked beyond the pale. Dublin Castle was built; and the first bridge thrown over the Liffey.

The 16th century exhibited a tiresome series of rainings, all suppressed with cold-blooded ferocity, while Cromwell overran the country, whose ruined keeps and dismantled castles still attest to the horrors of the times.

It is true that many of the English colonists became *Hiberniores ipsis Hibernis*; but it cannot be denied that the plunderings, extortions, and the murdering of the old natives was due solely to a

land hunger, and acquired a religious colour, accidentally as it were, owing to the hypocritical cloak which some of the rulers, professedly Protestant, threw over their greed.

The 18th century brought with it at least freedom from constant invasion, and the citizens had leisure to devote to the adornment of their city. The Royal Barracks, the old Custom House, the Parliament House, the Royal Exchange, and the Rotunda Lying-in Hospital were erected. The arts and public utilities flourished.

The north side was the aristocratic quarter, its streets memorials to the great English families: Rutland Square (now Parnell Square), Marlborough Street and Dorset Street. The south side, menaced by the tribes of Wicklow, was considered a trifle unsafe, until they were subdued and the tide of fashion moved south.

The Duke of Leinster had built Leinster House in 1745 (now the seat of the two houses of the Irish Parliament), and Merrion Square and St Stephen's Green followed to become social cen-

tres. This was, indeed, the Golden Age of Dublin. But it did not last. William Pitt, alarmed at the rising of the United Irishmen in 1798, introduced the Act of Union two years later, and Dublin was no longer an independent metropolis. But it remained the centre for every subsequent movement for independence, which came in 1921, awash with blood.

But the city progressed in spite of many difficulties, and her streets have long since ceased to exhibit that squalor which earned for her the sobriquet "dear dirty Dublin".

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Illustration taken from Dublin One Thousand Years, by Stephen Conlin (The O'Brien Press, £9.95)



Still fair of face: horse and cart ply an old trade before Trinity College, one of many places where Dublin's beauty endures

Praise the elegance of an Irishman's dining room, it has been said, and he will look you in the eye and say: "Argh, but you should see the kitchen: 'tis a terrible mess." On a recent weekend in Dublin I saw a couple of dining rooms in private houses, both spic and span, and the adjoining kitchens looked in very good order too. The Irish have a great taste for self-denigration and Dublin itself has been among the chief sufferers.

It has been the fashion to say that Dublin is but a vulgar shadow of its former self, that the great squares have nothing but the offices of lawyers and computer experts and that the Shelbourne had lost its grace. But tasting Dublin again after 10 years away it is amazing to find how much is left. There may not be a great deal to look at in Grafton Street apart from Bewlay's [Oriental Cafes Ltd] with its green wrought-iron balconies. But Davy Byrne's is right at hand: you may not find Leopold Bloom and Nosey Flynn or anyone from *Ulysses* but the stout is fine and the conversation sharp. The Powerscourt Townhouse Centre may look like any shopping plaza from Covent Garden to San Antonio, Texas, but it is only a few paces to the refuge of Neary's, a theatrical bar if ever there was one, catering for the Gaiety.

Haunts of a city

On St Stephen's Green itself, the site of the Russell, which a quarter century ago served the best food in Dublin, is now squatted by an ugly office block. But on the opposite corner the Shelbourne stands in its former glory. It has been restored to become in terms of service, correctness and the quality of its best rooms among the best hotels of Europe. But it remains resolutely stuffy.

Everything seems to be within five to 10 minutes' walk of the Shelbourne. Turn left at the front door and left again and there is Merrion Square: at No 1 at that address Oscar Wilde spent his childhood. It is probably Dublin's best preserved Georgian Square and, yes, there are some privately owned houses. Turn left from the Shelbourne, keep straight on and you will pass Doherty & Nesbitt's, a dark, partitioned bar dominated by a sign for Connolly's, a whiskey which cannot have passed anyone's lips

for decades now. Here is reckoned to be the best crack in town at the moment.

The less boisterous would do better to turn right from the Shelbourne and make for White's on the Green, a light and airy restaurant of two years' standing which somehow manages to combine a touch of the *nouvelles* with Irish size helpings. With Patrick Guilbaud and Le Coq Hardi it is reckoned to form the best trio of Dublin restaurants at present. But the long established Lord Edward up by the Cathedral has its supporters.

Do not, though, consider eating in town at Sunday lunchtime. This is when Dublin goes to the coast, usually courtesy the Dart, a fairly recently renovated railway line which hugs the sea from Howth to Bray. Get off it at Dalkey, which seems to have more restaurants per square yard than any other part of Ireland or at Sandycove itself, where stands the Martello Tower which gave Joyce a home and provided the opening of *Ulysses*. It is here next Thursday, Bloomsday, that the Joyce pilgrimage starts as part of the literary fortnight of the millennium celebrations.

If Dublin were to be destroyed, it has been said, the whole city could be reconstructed stone by stone provided somebody still had a copy of *Ulysses*.

John Higgins

Saturday and Sunday lunch at The Veeraswamy



One of life's rare pleasures is to be found on Saturday or Sunday at The Veeraswamy. The family buffet lunch is food fit for the gods. A dazzling array of mouth watering delicacies carefully prepared in the classic Indian tradition. It includes lamb, chicken, fish, three vegetarian dishes, salads, yoghurts and a choice of desserts. All for just £10.50 inclusive.

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TRAVEL 2

Fighting like devils on horseback

Swamps and pirates were all in a day's work to Lawrence and Lorne Blair, who spent ten years in the islands of Indonesia. Shona Crawford Poole hears their story

For how much longer will the warriors of western Sumba be allowed to treat with their gods in furious annual cavalry battle on the one day a year when red sea worms wash up on the island's beaches? It is one of many such questions raised by the films of Lorne and Lawrence Blair who spent ten years exploring the islands of the eastern seas.

Those who watched the first episode of their television series, *Ring of Fire*, on BBC1 last Monday have already met the brothers. Lorne, monocled when not behind the film camera, and Lawrence, psycho-anthropologist, writer, sometime sound-man and stills photographer, explored the volcanic Indonesian archipelago in search of vanishing customs, and seldom seen species.

They voyaged in the black-sailed schooners of the piratical Bugis traders of Sulawesi (Celebes that was), and searched for a lost tribe in Kalimantan (formerly Borneo). In the swamps of Irian Jaya (formerly New Guinea) they shacked up with cannibals, and on Sumba they dabbled with the remnants of human sacrifice of another sort.

It was in Sumba that they filmed the Pasola rite, which Lawrence described as "an annual war sport in which two teams of several hundred mounted warriors charge each other at full gallop, hurling javelins at close range with intent to kill. The spectators, by being as legitimate a target as the warriors themselves, are really participants."

The purpose of the Pasola is to assist the gods in maintaining harmony between the upper and lower worlds, and though death is no longer necessary to its success, blood must be drawn. Its participants ride Sandlewood horses, once the prized heat-resistant mounts of many a British cavalry regiment in India and South Africa.



The princess and the people: a Toraja princess looks down from her richly carved house on Sulawesi (Celebes), while (right) Sumba islanders offer themselves to the gods in the Pasola rite of human sacrifice



Game for a laugh: above, storyteller Hilo of central Borneo; right, Lorne Blair undressed to photograph cannibals of Irian Jaya (New Guinea)

After filming in the thick of it, Lawrence wrote: "This was a true medieval pageant, and for the first time in my life, amongst the noise and blood and horse-sweat, I sensed something of those past centuries of warfare in which our own ancestors had fought on horseback to establish the nation frontiers of Europe."

On Sulawesi it was the last rites of the last king of the Toraja star children that claimed the attention of the Blairs, and of the Toraja princess leaning out of the

window. The Torajas believe that before the dawn of human memory their ancestors descended in skyships from the star group Pleiades. They say that the ark-like form of their houses is like the skyships, and their funeral rites launch the souls of the dead back to the stars.

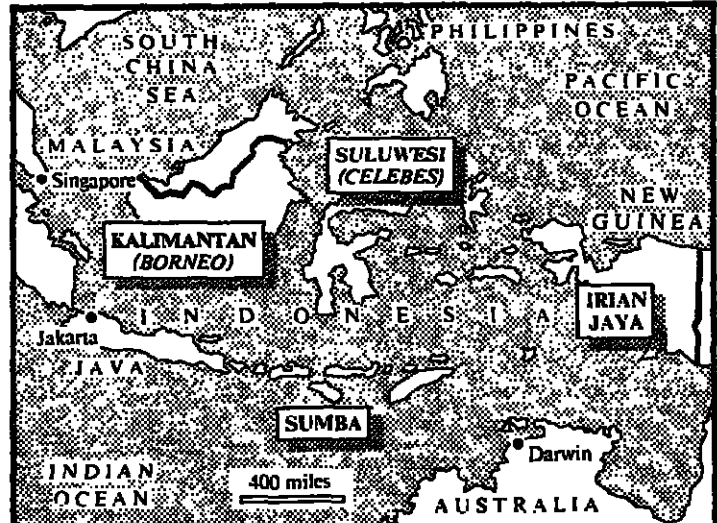
In Borneo, where they had gone in search of a lost tribe of Punan Dyaks, the Blairs found their quarry and had their leg pulled by the village storyteller. He broke up when he heard his own tape-

recorded voice for the first time. It wasn't just the novelty that entertained him, he had realized that the Blairs understood that he'd been entertaining the village with scurrilous stories about them.

Even the Bugis pirates, who gave us the term *boogie-man*, have boogie-men of their own. These are the cannibal Asmat tribesmen who live in the swamps that edge the Arafura Sea off south west Irian Jaya: the last people on earth most of us could be persuaded to undress for.

TRAVEL NOTES

Bali is the Indonesian island most often visited by holidaymakers. Because it is centrally placed it is the hub of inter-island air and sea transport. Indonesia's national airline Garuda (01-486 3011) flies from London to Bali three times a week. It refers potential passengers to ticket agents, and the cheapest fare I have come across is £537 economy return from Indonesian Express (01-491 4469). Indonesia no longer has a tourist



office in Britain, but the travel agency and tour operator Indonesian Express acts unofficially in that capacity. The company's *Just Indonesia* brochure sets out a variety of tours to many of the islands mentioned in *Ring of Fire*, and it can make arrangements to visit most parts of the country. Official permits are required to visit some areas of special interest to naturalists. A seven-day houseboat trip to visit the Dyak tribes on the Mahakam River of Kalimantan costs from £378. Expect to add about £600 for

transport to Borneo from London. Lawrence Blair will be a guest lecturer on an expedition cruise visiting Sumba and other islands in October. The cruise is run by Quark Expeditions, costs from US\$3,850 per person, and can be booked through Salen Lindblad Cruising in New York (212-761 2300).

A book, also called *Ring of Fire*, by Lawrence Blair with Lorne Blair, from which these pictures were taken, is published by Bantam Press, £14.95.

TRAVEL NEWS

Rising rooms

Hotel prices in Britain have risen 10 per cent in the past year. According to a new survey the biggest price rises were in hotels which had spent most on refurbishment. London's Hyatt Carlton was the most expensive hotel in the survey, charging £216.50 a night for bed and breakfast for one. Three-star hotels in Wales registered the lowest price rises (7.59 per cent on average), and four-star hotels in Stratford-upon-Avon the highest (16.46 per cent). The research was conducted by Expedia for the magazine *Caterer and Hotelkeeper*.

Indian style

Individual tours of India are featured in *Cox & Kings' lavishly illustrated new catalogue*. *Chauffeur-driven cars* replace the coaches of the group tour and there is a guide at every destination. *Itineraries* include a 12-day train journey on the Palace on Wheels through Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, and a 19-day tour of Southern India, both at £1,775, exclusive of food.

Another innovation, on the full board group tours, is a choice of meals from the à la carte menus of the hotels and restaurants featured. (*Cox & Kings*, 01-931 9106.)

• "Burglars Don't Take Holidays" is the slogan for a service offering portable burglar alarms for hire through travel agents. Fears of a break-in at home rate high among holiday worries. The movement-activated alarms cost £2.30 a day, or £86.25 to buy outright from travel agents. The service is run by Smith & Handy (01-200 9161).

Drive line

Topical motoring and leisure information on nearly 300 subjects is available to the public through the Automobile Association's new telephone service, called AA Directory. Copies of a free pamphlet listing the 290 direct line telephone numbers are being circulated to homes throughout the country. For the price of a premium rate call - 35p a minute at peak times - motorists can listen to the latest national and regional road traffic news. The association is also offering country-by-country guides to driving abroad, ideas for days out for families, and Egon Ronay-recommended restaurants and AA-recommended hotels.

Lower leaving

Australia is halving the departure tax on all passengers leaving the country after July 1. The immigration clearance fee is also being abolished. Departing passengers will pay £4.50 instead of the £11 previously levied. "Negative comments" are given as one reason for the change.

Island bonus

Desroches Island in the Amirantes, an outlying group in the Seychelles archipelago, is to be opened to visitors. Air Seychelles will be flying the 130-mile trip from Mahé three times a week. Accommodation at the Desroches Island Lodge is in 20 twin-bedded bungalows. The Seychelles Tourist Office (01-439 9699) has details.

• With the publication of Map 985, covering Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and the Faroe Isles, Michelin has now completed its main road series of Western Europe. The 1:1,500,000 scale map, entitled *Scandinavia and Finland*, costs £2.25.

Ski schooling

Learn-to-ski weeks for beginners can be a ruse to full beds on quiet weeks, which makes *Go Ski's* season-long courses at L'Etal, a satellite of La

Clusaz, France, a useful addition to the ski scene. An extra £69 on top of the holiday package price buys boot, ski and pole hire, ski school, lift pass, a skiing test, and a company sweatshirt (*Go Ski*, 0293 517733).

• Long weekends on the Côte d'Azur for £119 cannot be had. Euro Express (0444 440566) has three-night holidays in Nice based on bed and breakfast in central hotels, with flights from Gatwick, available at that price departing on June 16 and 23.

TRAVEL BOOKS

The most irritating travel books are guides which gush or lecture. *Cuba Official Guide* by Andrew Gravette (Macmillan Caribbean, £10.95) is a gusher. Its redeeming features are that it is extensive and generously illustrated.

• With *Lakeland Towns and Villages* (Forster Davies, £4.95), Hunter Davies aspires to do for the little towns what Wainwright did for the big fells. As he says, Lakeland's 13 million visitors a year base themselves in the towns and villages so they need an expert eye to guide them to the prettiest villages, the best town walks, the finest architecture and good pubs and restaurants.

S.C.P.

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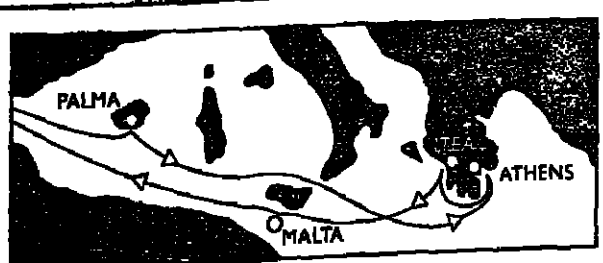
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OUT AND ABOUT

OUTINGS

FAMILY RAMBLING DAY: For the growing numbers of family walkers, over 200 events in England, Scotland and Wales sponsored by the Ramblers Association, Ordnance Survey and Clarks. Tomorrow, various venues. For further information of events in your area call 01-582 8878 today between 9am and 5pm.

SCRAP AND SCRATCH ARMADA OPERA: Many famous names from the Royal Opera, Kent Opera and Rambert Dance Companies give their support to children of all ages, helping them to rehearse in six hours, start to finish - the events of the Armada. Theatre, mime, mask, music, dance. National Maritime Museum, Greenwich. Tomorrow 10.30am to 5.15pm. Free. Further information: 01-854 8888.

HEAVY HORSES AT SAILOR: 25 horses including Shires, Clydesdales and Suffolks brought to the magnificent open air museum by members of the Southern Counties Heavy Horse Association to plough, harrow and carry out other agricultural tasks. Light refreshments available. Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, Singleton, near Chichester, West Sussex (024363 346). Tomorrow, 11am to 5pm. Adult £2.20, child £1.10.

ESSEX HISTORY FAIR: Selling regalia, military re-enactments, Victorian musical, crafts, talks, local history displays, jazz, jugglers and historical dancers and musicians. Many food stalls, soft drinks and real ales. Tilbury Fort, West Tilbury, near Grays, Essex (0375 858489). Tomorrow, 10.30am to 6pm. Adult £2, child £1.

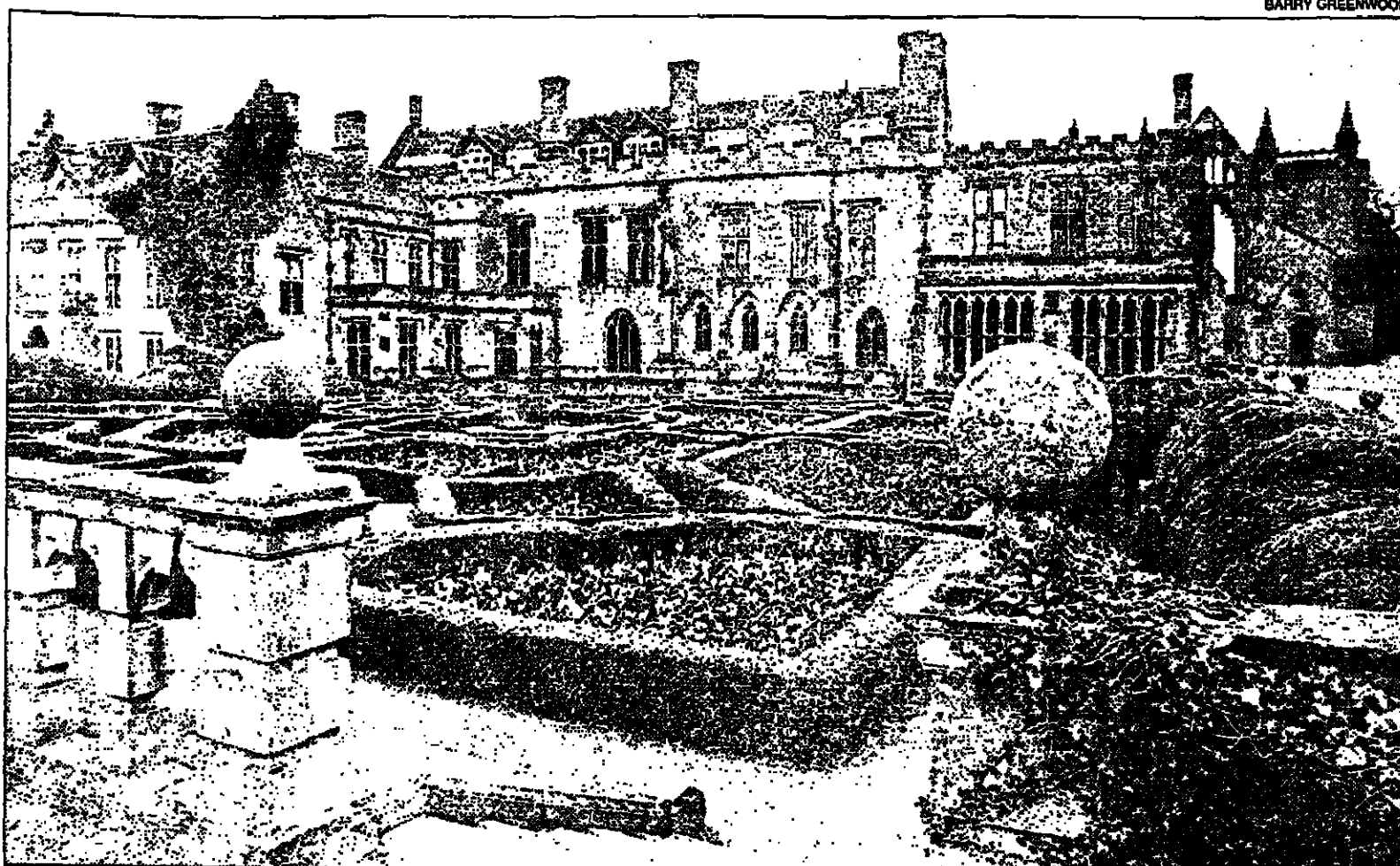
LEEDS CASTLE BALLOON FIESTA: 25 hot air balloons compete in races throughout the weekend. Champagne flights. Vintage Bentley display and a Sotheby display of ballooning and aeronautical memorabilia - to be auctioned in London next week. Full refreshments available. Leeds Castle, Maidstone, Kent (0822 674177). Today, tomorrow, 9am to 7pm. Adults £3.50, child £2.

THE ARMADA AND THE COUNTRYSIDE: A weekend of "living history" with re-enactments of the effects of the conflict created by the Armada on the English countryside. Both days show horse rides and demonstrations of wood turning. Tomorrow only, a vintage Austin Register Rally, auto jumble, model railway rides and bar. Avoncroft Museum of Buildings, Stoke Heath, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire (0527 31363). Today, tomorrow, 11am to 4.30pm. Adult £1.90, child 95p.

3rd AUDLEY END FESTIVAL OF CRAFTS: Over 100 craftsmen and craftswomen demonstrating and selling their wares. Audley End House, Audley End, Saffron Walden, Essex (0799 22842). Today, tomorrow, 11am to 5pm. Admission, including to house, adult £3, child £2.

THE VOLUPTUOUS MAN: Hull University drama department's production of Jan van der Bergher play, translated by Peter King, in the stunning ruins of Rievaulx. Bring rugs, cushions, etc. Rievaulx Abbey, North Yorkshire. Today, 6pm and 8pm. Adult £2, child £1.50. (Further information: 04396 228.)

Judy Froshaug



Romantic pile: the house that Byron lived in and loved, with (below) the Great Hall that he used as a shooting gallery on wet days

Gothic seat of poetic licence

An old, old monastery once, and now still older mansion, of a rich and rare Mix'd Gothic... Newstead Abbey still lives up to Byron's description: in fact the Gothic is even more mixed, thanks to post-Byronic additions. No building more perfectly looks the part of a great romantic poet's dream house.

It was never in fact an abbey, but a priory, and the great rambling building, with its oriel windows and Gothic doorways, its castellated roofline and tall chimneys, grows out of and away from the ruined west front of the old priory church. This decayed facade is in itself an architectural wonder, a sublimely beautiful composition in the style of the late 13th century, its huge central window empty alike of glass and tracery. Behind almost nothing of the church remains, but the cloisters are intact, and the priory buildings form the core of the house that became Newstead Abbey.

It came into the Byron family at the Dissolution, and splendid monuments to the first four owners - all Sir Johns - are the first things the visitor sees, in the ancient crypt. They were not there in the poet's time, though he would surely have liked to have them about the place. He relished his collection of four human skulls, one of which he and his friends used as a drinking cup in their frequent poetical booze-ups. And he thrilled to the occasional sight of the ghostly Black Friar who haunted the room next to his bedroom.

Byron, born exactly 200 years ago, inherited Newstead via his father, Mad Jack, son of Foul Weather Jack, who had inherited from the Wicket Lord, aka Devil Byron. The poet - "mad, bad and dangerous to know" had a lot to live up to, rather little to

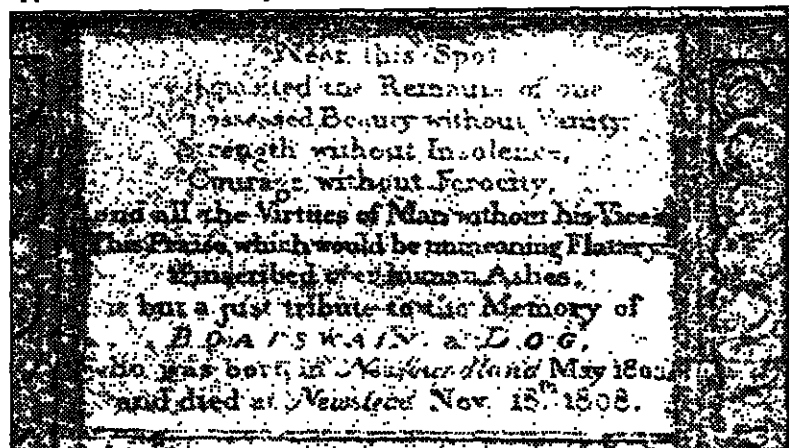
Newstead Abbey, the Byron home from the Dissolution, was a perfect background for a romantic poet, Nigel Andrew muses

live on, and in the ruinous Newstead Abbey, nothing much to live in. The place was mortgaged, dilapidated and mostly uninhabitable; but, of course, it had just the creepy, time-soaked atmosphere no fashionable poet and blood-conscious aristocrat could resist. Byron moved in as soon as he came of age, and continued to love the place all his life, even though he was obliged to sell it in 1817. An old schoolfriend, Colonel Wildman, bought it to enable the poet to pay off his debts.

Byron made parts of the building habitable, refurbishing some of the rooms to a smart and fashionable appearance. Unfortunately he left the

roof in a bad way, so much of his work was soon undone. But he at least established a private quarter for himself, as far as possible from his guests' rooms: "I have to walk half a mile to my Bed-chamber," he wrote wearily. The mouldering Great Hall made a fine shooting gallery for wet days, the passage between the chapter house and the transept of the old church was flooded to make a plunge bath, and the derelict chapel was used to tether some of Byron's pet animals.

The favourite of all his pets, his Newfoundland dog Boatswain, is buried where Byron reckoned the altar of the priory church would have stood. His monument is inscribed with a



Epitaph for a pet: the words Byron had inscribed on his dog's tomb

fulsome Byronic epitaph, and underneath is the vault where the poet insisted that he too was to be buried. In the event he was not, and he lies with his forefathers in nearby Hucknall church.

Newstead Abbey today is still imbued with the Byronic atmosphere. The poet's rather chic bedroom is reconstructed just as it was, and in the newly restored library there is a wonderful collection of relics - everything from Boatswain's formidable collar to Byron's ludicrous "Greek" helmet.

Other parts of the house - and there is a quite dizzying amount of it - range from the truly medieval to the heavily Victorianized. The Victorian wing conveys the opulent flavour of life at Newstead in the time of the Webbs, who took over from Colonel Wildman.

Outside there are beautiful gardens of half a dozen different designs, and water everywhere - three ponds and a long, wide lake. Jackdaws, geese and raucous peacocks parade about, and on one of the lawn an ivy-clad stump is all that now remains of Byron's oak, planted when the poet first came to this altogether extraordinary place.

Newstead Abbey, Linby, Nottinghamshire (0823 793557) is open daily, 11.30am-6pm, until September 30. The grounds are open all year round. Admission to house £1.20, OAPs 40p, children 20p. Admission to grounds 85p, children 40p.

Hurry while docks last

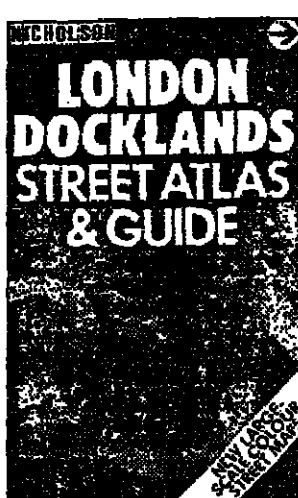
To attempt a street atlas and guide to London's Docklands, now maritime in name alone, seems like a really ardent courtship of obsolescence. This does not mean that the venture is worthless; rather, that if you want a handheld companion to a restless and protean chunk of the capital, you should hurry now while docks last.

Nicholson's 125-page volume looks at a first glance rather like an A-Z, or a fairly hefty appendix on an area whose claims for special treatment can no longer be ignored. It is in fact a good deal more than that.

Here is cartographical proof of what we knew to be the case these past few years, whether from media reports or from direct experience - that these eight and a half square miles to the east of Tower Bridge have been transformed from a graveyard of imperial trade to a frontier town - no, a frontier region - with vast sheets of redundant water, huge skies alien to the rest of a developed city, and equally limitless dreams of the creation and disposal of industrial wealth.

The plot thickens as we move from the maps themselves to the gazetteer section, in which churches and community centres co-exist, in mutual alarm perhaps, with wine bars and superstores. What a sublime irony that there should be so many conservation pockets in an area whose visual character will be so moulded by rampant deregulation.

To anyone who comes from the other end of the District Line, the guide is a reminder of just how much London's centre of gravity is being yanked to the right by the Dockland developments; after a few hours of letting your fingers do the walking through these pages, from St Katherine's Dock to Gallions Point, such things as Tower Bridge, the Bank and the City



Nicholson's eastern promise become suddenly very west, and the West End itself positively peripheral.

The statistics underlying the years of development between 1981 and 1987 are astounding. Twelve thousand new homes have been built or are under way, £2,200 million of private money has been invested and 10,000 new jobs created, while unemployment in the area remains at 25 per cent as the "old" jobs continue to disappear.

The book is justifiably hard on speculators who came in to make an early killing on soaring land prices, but apart from that points few accusing fingers. It recognizes, as cartographers must, that working landscapes respond vividly, for better or worse, to imperatives from beyond their boundaries. Just as dereliction was a direct result of container handling and the shift of trade to Tilbury, so the current explosion cannot be seen entirely in isolation from the Big Bang upriver. The hard thing - one which Nicholson pulls off - is to freeze the essence, however fleetingly, of a place in flux between the poles of nostalgia and venturism.

Alan Franks

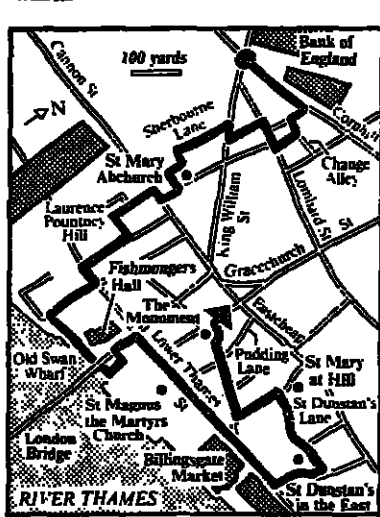
LONDON Bank to the Monument

From Bank station go via Cornhill to Change Alley, where the South Sea Bubble burst in 1720 and coffee houses gave birth to the Stock Exchange. Off Lombard Street is Post Office Court, where the Clearing House system was begun by bank messengers in the late 18th century. King William Street, built for the 19th-century London Bridge, cuts across medieval Sherbourne Lane, which leads to St Mary Abchurch and Cannon Street. Laurence Pountney Hill goes down to Lower Thames Street, the river's edge in Roman times.

From Old Swan Wharf, go up stairs on to London Bridge to see Southwark Cathedral and Fishmongers' Hall, then down to the path by St Magnus-the-Martyr, which led to Old London Bridge from 1176 to 1832.

Billingsgate building is all that remains of the 1,000-year-old fish market, next door to the Custom House. The Saxons founded St Dunstan-in-the-East is now a public garden in the bombed ruins of a Victorian church with a Wren spire. Take the St Mary at Hill church cloisters and Lovat Lane to get to Pudding Lane, where the Great Fire started, and the Monument that commemorates it, close to Monument station.

Fran Hazelton



IN THE GARDEN

CLARE ROBERTS

The shape of things to clip

Topiary is back in fashion, and peacocks are busy bursting into leaf, Francesca Greenoak reports

Topiary has always aroused strong feelings. The Romans were enthusiastic, Francis Bacon loved the classic shapes, while Addison loathed "the marks of scissors upon every plant and bush" and Alexander Pope mockingly deplored the "tinsure of greens". It would be easy to see the present upsurge of interest simply as a reaction to the relaxed cottage garden style, but in fact some of the most interesting gardens (Barnsley House in Gloucestershire, for example, or Great Dixter in Sussex) are combining topiary with a variety of styles, using the formal clipped trees and hedges to punctuate more flowing gardening.

There is also, I believe, a move away from the dreary conifer-and-heather low maintenance gardens. A formal garden with topiary suits even small gardens very well and, contrary to expectations, does not take much managing, once established. Clipping

needs to be done regularly but (depending on the species) not all that frequently.

Topiary brings the excitement of creating a living shape. When a Bristol architect who made a full-size locomotive in privet explained that he made it because the hedge it was carved from took too long to cut, he meant ordinary hedge-cutting is a chore, topiary an intellectual pleasure.

However, not everyone has either the confidence or the talent to start off even on a simple roundel or pyramid. A series of elegant frames just designed by Geraldine Lacey, an artist and Sussex topiaryist herself, provides a useful (if somewhat pricey) introduction to the skill.

Based on traditional shapes and classical proportions, they can be arranged in various ways: an obelisk can sit neatly on top of a square base, crowned with a ball finial.

They are designed to look sculptural and attractive while the yew or box is actually growing up through them. In good soil and conditions, it might take about 10 years for a young yew to fill its 7ft frame. The clipping is done gradually, using the natural shape of the new growth as far as possible. Keep the centre open and unobscured so the main points of growth are not impeded.

One of Lacey's small ornamental peacocks started life as a box cutting only six years ago. After two years she divided the stems at the base in two, taking about four shoots each way and tying them to the frame to grow towards the chest and head, and fixing the remainder to grow into the tail. You can easily fashion a horse-made frame from bamboo for this shape but there are wire bird frames for peacocks and swans. When it is nearly



Hedging one's bets: formal topiary suits even a small garden very well, and is easily managed

grown you pull a sprig from the neck horizontally to make the head and beak.

There are chessmen, pillars, cones and crowns in the frame repertoire. Made in aluminium, even the largest are easily movable and can be used for free-standing trees or trees and shrubs in pots. I favour the simple formality of balls, pyramids and cubes (which I started in rather wobbly fashion in my own garden before I knew about frames) but I am very drawn to a beautiful robust bird

shape which has been copied from Great Dixter. It is in an aluminium frame which, like the wire birds, could be used on a tub-grown plant or placed on top of a hedge.

Yew is still best for larger topiary subjects, and box for smaller ones (variety Suffruticosa for dwarf features). Avoid the variegated kind which, apart from looking horrible, has stems which are too brittle for good topiary. Privet, hawthorn, holly and Chinese honeysuckle (*Lonicera nitida*) and a variety

of other plants can also be used, but obviously faster growing plants need more frequent clipping.

While in growth, yew, box and holly might be trimmed every six months or so but, once mature, they need attention only once a year. In fact, overclipping can be a problem. The worst danger is from frost: no topiary, in particular box, should be cut if frost is likely. August and September are the best times for maintenance, but if you want to encourage growth in a certain

WEEKEND TIPS

- Hoe in dry weather to dispose of weed seedlings effectively.
- If plum trees look as if they will be heavily laden, remove young plums, leaving one fruit for every 3in of wood.
- Check ties on young trees planted last winter and loosen them if necessary. If using a double-sided Velcro tape as a tie, allow for adjustment.
- Watch out for cabbage white butterflies; wipe eggs from the underside of brassica leaves and remove caterpillars as early as possible - locating them by small holes.
- Cut back side shoots of cordon currants and gooseberries to 4 leaves.
- Make sure all houseplants which need it are reported. Feed indoor plants with a liquid feed about once every ten days.
- Take softwood cuttings from a wide range of herbs and shrubs such as southernwood, elders, box, deciduous viburnums.
- Clear beds of vegetables which have finished cropping and prepare beds for new seeds and seedlings.

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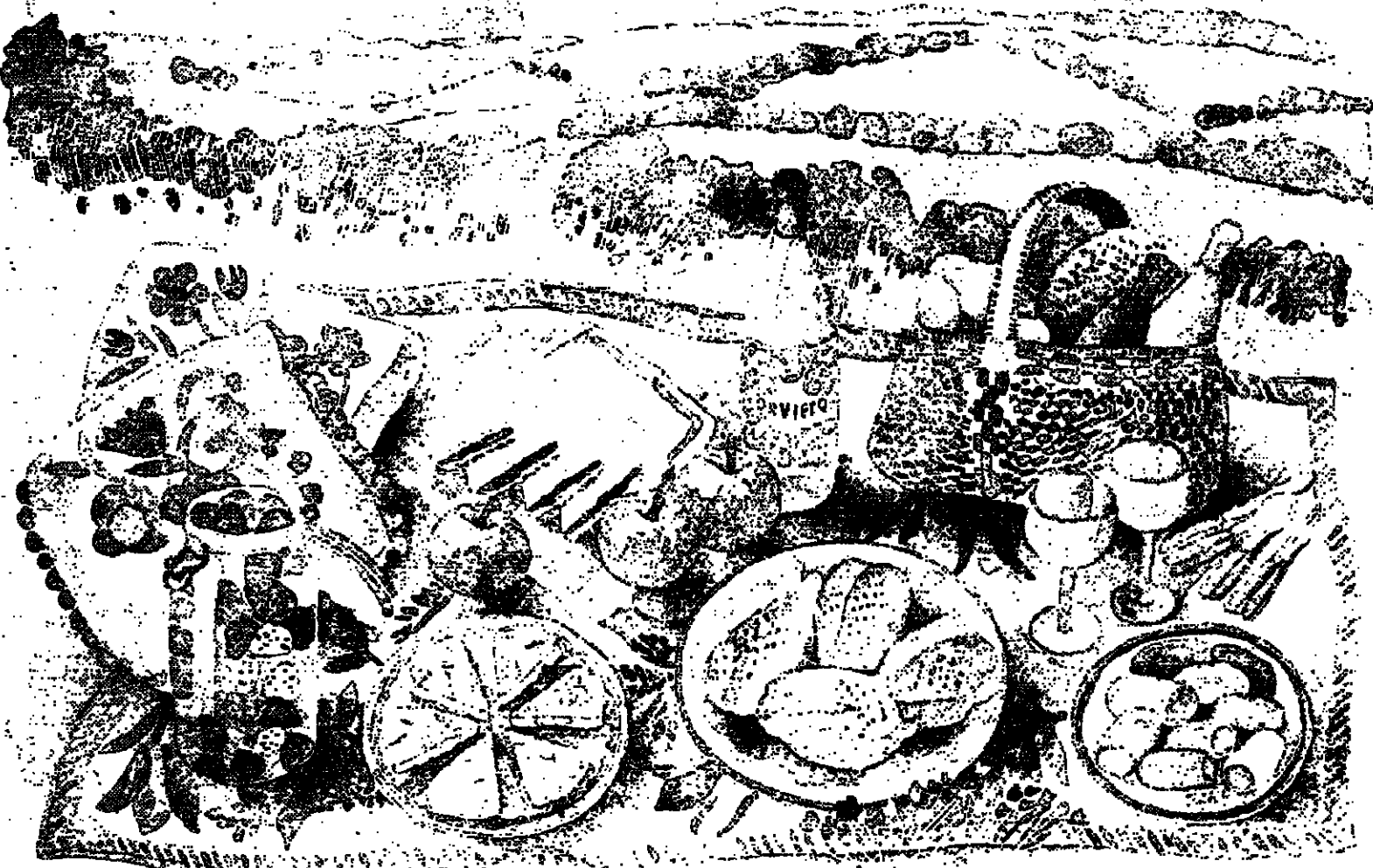
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THE TIMES COOK

DIANA LEADBETTER



Hampered progress - the art of the picnic

The best picnics are the impromptu ones. On those rare occasions when weather, company and inclination coincide, you will almost certainly be able to come up with the right sort of food and wine, even if it's only a basket of fruit, some good cheese left over from last night's dinner party and the remains of the roast lamb you served. It will still taste wonderful in these perfect circumstances.

Sometimes, however, you cannot leave it to chance and more forethought is required. Is it to be an elaborate or a simple picnic? Do you need cutlery, tablecloth and plates, or will fingers do? Whatever you do, keep to crisp, fresh flavours and textures. Whether sweet, savoury or fruity, choose the direct rather than the subtle approach. Anything chocolate, meltable, sticky, soggy or crumbly should be avoided. Food needs to be robust to stand up to the rigours of transport. The Cornish pasty was invented with this in mind - thus anything in a pastry case is a good idea, like the bacon and egg pie I wrote about a couple of weeks ago. A stuffed, roasted joint of meat such as a loin of pork which, when cool, is sliced and put back together again before being tightly wrapped in foil is a good centre piece for a picnic. Small stuffed roasted birds are delicious, quails or pousins, or even squab if you can get them.

I love mayonnaise, particularly with new potatoes, but it does not travel well and leaks and separates. A good alternative to potato salad is small mushroom sandwiches, which act as a perfect foil for a meat dish. If you want to take greens, pack a bag of crudités or salad leaves, but carry the dressing separately. Pour it into a bowl, dip the salad in it, and eat with the fingers. Other good finger foods are thick wedges of Spanish omelette, Parma ham wrapped around fingers of melon or good firm cheese, home-made Scotch eggs using quail eggs, and cold barbecued chicken wings which are cheap as well as being the most delicious part of the bird, especially when cold.

If you want something more elaborate

Crisp, fresh and robust foods are the key to that rarest of treats for the British, the picnic. Frances Bissell unpacks some ideas

rate than a basket of fruit and some cheese at the end, put some fresh, prepared fruit in a Kilner jar together with about 1/4pt/140ml syrup flavoured with orange and lemon juice as well as a spot of brandy. Seal the jar and once you're ready to serve the fruit, fill up with a suitable wine, re-seal, turn it over a couple of times to blend the flavours, then open the jar and eat the fruit with long forks and "dipping biscuits", or serve in glass bowls if the picnic is a grand affair. Try strawberries with Chateau de Beaulieu, or even champagne, or apricots with Moscatto d'Asti. To accompany the picnic, choose a wine that will give you and your guests pleasure, not one that is cheap and "good enough for outdoors". Eating outside in Britain is a rare treat, and it should always be a memorable one.

Mushroom sandwiches
Serves 4
1/2lb/230g field mushrooms
1 tablespoon olive oil
2 shallots, finely chopped
salt
freshly ground black pepper
3oz/85g butter, softened
garnish: flat-leaved parsley

Wipe and, if necessary, peel the field mushrooms, then slice them. Fry them in the olive oil with the chopped shallots until soft, raising the heat to evaporate the liquid which exudes in quantity from mushrooms. Season to taste and allow to cool, then mash together with the butter.

Remove the crusts from the bread and make sandwiches with the mushroom filling. Cut the sandwiches into neat triangles or fingers.

Spanish omelette
Serves 4
1 small onion
2 tablespoons olive oil

1/2lb/110g cooked potatoes, diced
1/2lb/110g cooked spinach, squeezed, dried and chopped
8 size 3 eggs
salt
freshly ground black pepper

Peel the onion and slice very thinly. Heat the olive oil in a heavy deep frying pan, about 8 or 9in (20.5 or 23cm) in diameter, and fry the onion until golden brown. Add the potatoes and spinach, and distribute the vegetables evenly over the base of the frying pan. Lightly beat the eggs. Raise the heat, and pour the eggs over the vegetables. Season lightly with salt and freshly ground black pepper.

When the omelette is well set all the way through, invert a large plate over the frying pan, tip the frying pan upside down and the omelette will fall out, cooked side uppermost. Place the pan back on the heat, adding a little more oil if necessary, and when hot, slide the omelette back in to cook the underside. When fully cooked, turn out on a plate and allow to cool. To serve, cut into wedges.

Roast pousin
Per person you need:
1 12oz/340g pousin
1 clove garlic
1/2in/1cm piece fresh ginger if possible
1 tablespoon soy sauce
freshly ground black pepper
pinch ground cinnamon or five-spice powder
a little sesame oil mixed with sunflower oil

Trim any loose fat and skin from the pousin, and chop off the wing tips. Peel and slice the garlic and ginger very thinly and cut into small slivers. Insert these under the skin of the

pousin, particularly over the breast and thighs. Rub all over with soy sauce, sprinkle with pepper and spice and marinate for an hour before cooking. For each bird, take a piece of foil large enough to wrap it completely, and brush it all over with the oil. Place the pousin in the centre and the wrapped pousin on a baking tray and roast in the top half of a hot oven, gas mark 6, 200 C/400 F for 35 minutes. Remove from the oven and allow to go cold. There is no need to unwrap the chicken until required, when each person can unwrap their own.

The next recipe is taken from Claudia Roden's book *Picnic* (Penguin, £4.95). It is worth making plenty of the almond fingers, some for the picnic to dip into the fruit and syrup and some for back home with hot coffee after a day out.

Almond fingers
Makes 48
1/2lb/230g (12 sheets) filo pastry
1/2lb/110g ground almonds
2oz/60g granulated sugar
1 good tablespoon rosewater or orange flower water
3/4oz/100g unsalted butter
icing sugar

Preheat the oven to gas mark 4, 180°C, 350°F. Cut each sheet of filo pastry into four strips of equal width and pile them together to stop the fragile pastry from drying out. Mix the ground almonds and sugar together with the rosewater or orange flower water. Melt the butter and use some of it to brush the top surface of filo. Put a heaped teaspoon of the almond mixture at one end and roll up into a cigar shape. When you have rolled it halfway, fold the longer sides in to enclose the filling and continue rolling. Place on a buttered baking sheet and brush with melted butter. Prepare the rest in the same way.

Bake in the preheated oven for about 20 minutes or until lightly golden. When cold, sprinkle with icing sugar. They will keep for several days in an airtight tin.

EATING OUT

Sundays with the Marbella set

FRANCIS MOSLEY

Jonathan Meades takes a secret weapon along to a place in town that succeeds in rising to the occasion

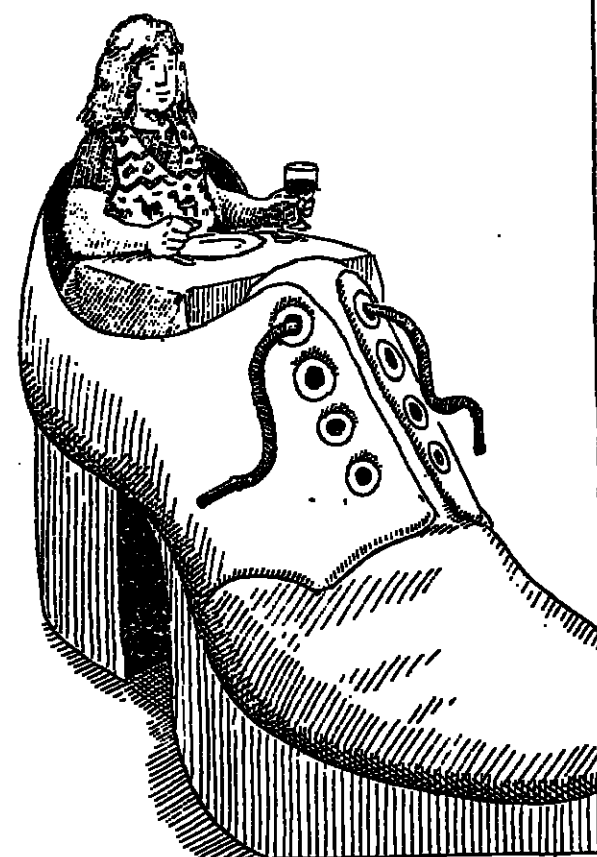
Apart from the price the only problem with Sunday lunch at Le Soufflé in the Inter-continental Hotel at Hyde Park Corner is that it turns out to be brunch, something that the voice that took my booking did not mention. Maybe the voice assumed that anyone who booked for that meal must know its nature; maybe it feared that anyone who didn't know would cry off if told - for brunch is, along with religious observances, closed retailers and slothfulness, one of the things that makes Sundays so dismal.

Still, Le Soufflé's idea of brunch is, thankfully, far from the common run of warmed-over mid-Atlantic dishes washed down with debilitating litres of Bloody Mary. If you're so minded you can just about get a meal of that sort there, but you're more likely to eat quite interesting stuff, which hints at how fine a restaurant it must be in normal circumstances.

The hotel foyer is a period piece of the early Seventies - a hangar with expensive finishes, brown glass lights modelled on wasps' nests, an obtrusive Hertz concession, and 18th-century French tapestries to lead a hunk of time. The restaurant, in which I've only previously eaten when the fairly celebrated Aquitaine chef Michel Trama was doing a "guest" stint, used to be done out in another style of the same period, repro-Odeon. It wasn't exactly a pretty sight but it was, after a decade and a half, a fascinating one. I guess the hotel has done right to get rid of it; after all, no one really wants to eat inside the decorative equivalent of a platform-soled boot, does he? But one day we're going to rue the loss of the interiors marked by the crass vulgarity of those years; they're disappearing fast, and someone must form a Seventies Society to fight for them on architectural-historical, if not aesthetic, grounds.

What has replaced the chrome exuberance and the carpets up the wall is late-Eighties good taste. The walls are hung with unvarnished wooden display cases containing shards of fabric or marble eggs wrapped in tissue paper. Here and there stand bold pots with artificial camellias, wonderful samples of the florist's craft. The room, which has no windows, is lit by lights so zealously concealed that you begin to wonder if lights are reckoned indecent, the way chair legs once were. By the turn of the century it will, of course, appear as much of a period piece as its predecessor, whose traces are now manifest only in the clothes of its, presumably, long-time and loyal clients. The majority of them favour the effortlessly casual Marbella look familiar from tabloid exposés of "company directors" who've never ever heard of Brinks Mat, match, and who years to return to Blighty for a good old knees-up and a pint of wallop.

The President of the Seventies Society dining in his favourite restaurant.



They'd find that the damage has shot up something shocking. Criminal, really, what this gaff wants to see for a glass of champagne - £5.60 - and even more diabolical what it wants to see for a glass of kir royale - £5.90. That's the price of four whole bottles of Fundador. Still, it keeps out the riff-raff. These punters accord ill, not only with the new décor which is supposed to make gents of us all, but with the unflashy congeniality of the staff, who are professional and friendly but not professionally friendly. Admittedly I had my secret

simply, compressed, deep-fried shreds of the tuber - there was no contrast between the exterior and the centre.

Roast beef comes from a hemisphere on wheels and, as I never tire of saying, was braised beef, steamed in its own heat. But fine braised beef, and generously cut as one thick rib; the Yorkshire pudding was a decent lump of that batter and the horseradish sauce was the kind that blazes the nasal membranes. One dish stood out notably: this was veal steak with veal kidney in a fiery grain-mustard sauce. It was served with noodles which all tasted the same despite being red and green and cream, and with a sauté of mushrooms.

The cheese trolley is a serious-looking affair whose wares include the very smelly Picardy soft cheese called Rollot which is some relation of Maroilles and of Reblochon. The bread that goes with it is herby and pretty good. The sweet trolley is fructuous, lactic, on the gross side; its chocolate mousse is sensationally light though maybe too sweet - which accusation cannot be made of the chocs and truffles which come with the coffee. These are bitter, possessed of a great depth of flavour.

The mark-up on a bottle of Crémant d'Alsace was hardly friendly and brought it to £19 - with the exception of a Saumur fizzy at £17, this was the cheapest sparkling wine on offer. Drinkable non-potent wines are similarly priced. The bill for two, with nothing in addition to what I've mentioned, was £80 - with a £10 tip they did have to cope with the bane as well as make eyes at her - the meal cost £90. I daresay that this was the cheapest spend per head in the restaurant that day.

Le Soufflé, Inter-continental Hotel, 1 Hamilton Place, London W1 (01-409 3131). Brunch 12.30-3pm Sun, otherwise open every day 12.30-3pm and 7-11.30pm. Closed Sat lunch.

'I must declare that my idea of a cheese soufflé is out of Welsh Rarebit by Aero'

weapon in tow - my baby daughter, who was brought a high chair and a smoked salmon omelette, and was cooed at and doted on not least by three musicians - guitar, violin, accordion - whose like I last saw in the Alcron Hotel, Prague.

The dish that this restaurant is named after is available at Sunday brunch in just one version. This was no ordinary cheese soufflé, however. It was pretty subtle or, according to taste, hopelessly underflavoured - I must own to a base taste in such things, and declare that my idea of a cheese soufflé is out of Welsh Rarebit by Aero. This was not that. Further it was full of walnuts like broken teeth, and beyond that it had poured into it a "compote" of pears, cinnamon and shallots. The other starter was smoked salmon with what was billed as "crisp potato pancakes" - these were fine, though they had little to do with either galettes or latkes and were,

DRINK

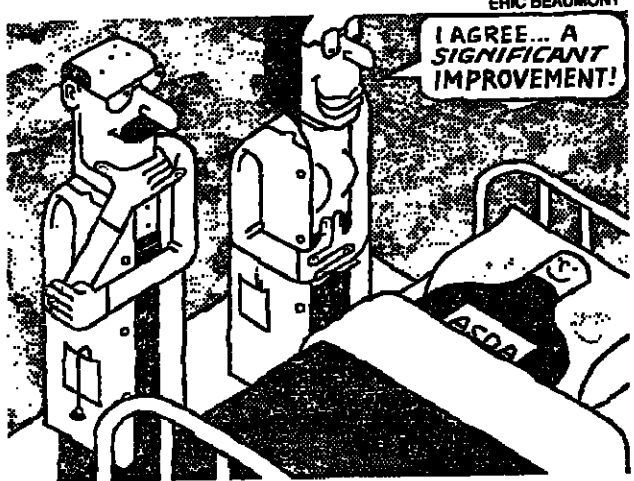
North wind blows in the superstore wars

Asda has recovered from a rocky wine-buying start to offer a serious challenge in the south, Jane MacQuitty reports

After an appalling Asda tasting three years ago, introducing their first grim collection of own-label wines, I was convinced that this predominantly northern-based chain of 120 supermarkets would never threaten southern wine-buying expertise. Since then Antonia Hadfield, its 31-year-old senior wine buyer who trained at Sainsbury's, and her small Leeds-based team have been quietly upgrading Asda's range.

A pleasant own-label champagne plus the best, most refreshing Crémant de Bourgogne on the market, again own-label, were encouraging signs for Asda-haters such as myself; but what finally persuaded me that Asda was worth a second opinion was the introduction 18 months ago of a fine wine range that now accounts for more than 5 per cent of Asda's total wine sales.

True, Asda's selection of 100 or more own-label brands, led by a white Lambrusco and a red Vin de Pays de l'Aude, still account for 85 per cent of its wine sales. But its 76-bottle fine wine range (known internally by the rather more prosaic title of "wine rack non-Asda brand") is still growing - one suspects at the expense of unlovely branded table wines such as Piat d'Or and Mateus Rosé.



When Hadfield joined Asda four years ago, her role was not much more than that of a commodity purchaser. The Asda board were convinced that the Piat d'Or route was the one to take but, she explains, "gradually as we gained the confidence of the board we got the go-ahead to develop our own-label side". Looking back, Hadfield grimly agrees that Asda's first tasting for the press was a mistake, and she is prepared to own up to early shortcomings and to disclose the reasons.

In the early days Asda did not ship any wines direct but relied entirely on UK agents to ship, stock and store its wines. Choice was severely restricted and technical control, together with the control of each wine's exact blend, was in someone else's hands. Today Asda ships all its wines direct. Asda is worth watching because it is determined to challenge major competitors in the south such as Sainsbury's and Tesco. Centres such as Brighton, Bristol, Slough and Taunton have Asda stores, as do the London areas of Colindale, Park Royal and the Isle of Dogs.

Hadfield has taken the bold and so far unique step - one that I suggested to supermarketers years ago - of offering free in-store wine tastings to Asda customers with an assistant on hand to provide useful background information and helpful serving suggestions. The results have been impressive, and Hadfield finds these in-store tastings essential when introducing new wines to the Asda range. With the summer season in

full swing Asda's sparkling wines are worth looking at; I'm still very fond of the '85 Asda Crémant de Bourgogne, still a 100 per cent Chardonnay-based sparkling from the Cave de Vire situated south of Macon, but now a crisper and more lemony blend, and excellent value priced at £4.99 a bottle. Asda's own champagne from the large Epernay-based firm of Charbaug, priced at £7.99, is also worth considering and is currently a fresh waxy palatable blend of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. Asda's non-vintage Pinot Blanc from the Eguisheim co-operative in Alsace is actually from the '86 vintage, and with its gentle apple blossom scent and soft apple palate makes another good summer aperitif.

Asda's red wines, excluding their fine wine range, are slightly less impressive than their whites. But Asda's '85 Chianti Classico with its stylish Roman-urn label, a classic light morello cherry fruit and slightly bitter finish bought from the House of Ricassoli, was excellent (£2.65). Also look out for Asda's fine perfumed Australian Cabernet

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PAPERBACKS

The Brontës Went to Woolworths by Rachel Ferguson (Virago, £4.50)

"It is marvellously successful," says A.S. Byatt in her introduction to this novel, "because it is about every kind of imagination." It is about mundane tabloid journalism and curiosity, and about the edges of the uncanny and the supernatural. Most of the time reality and fantasy can exist side by side, recognizably separate, but sometimes they merge even in the most ordinary lives. This is what happens to Deirdre, the narrator of this story, and to her sisters and mother, who share her fantasies and help to develop them as a family game. As a novelist Deirdre combines an energetic curiosity about other people's lives with a need to construct plots, to make patterns. So when she hears an interesting name or is struck by some remark about someone she has never met, she delights in imaginatively reconstructing that person's life (even down to the colour of his pyjamas), and making up stories in which he becomes closely involved in her own family life. What happens, then, when she does meet him and when he becomes sufficiently a friend to be willing to contribute to the fantasy version of his own life? It is fun but, as the governess points out, it is also a bit silly. She sees no difference between fantasy and lies. Yet it is she who calls up the spirits of the Brontë sisters and is then suddenly rescued from the family by their ghosts. Fantasy has now given way to the supernatural and everybody is scared for a moment until the ghost can be put back into a story about shopping in Woolworths. Altogether this is quite a subtle comment on storytelling and the imagination. It is also a celebration of family life and family jokes.

Destiny, by Sally Beauman (Bantam, £3.95)

Sally Beauman has worked out what ingredients make up the formula for a pulp novel and quite cynically set down to provide them. First, she has a strong silent aristocrat. He is French because that suggests things like well-tailored gloves

and châteaux full of finger bowls (even the snobbery is out of date). Then she has a girl who is beautiful and thin and has had a difficult childhood in the southern states of America, because that can bring in race riots, hot weather, and plantations. Then to make it all a bit more modern she has thrown in film companies and fast cars and stock market intrigue. And, of course, there is incest. The reader knows all the time that the beautiful man who finally gets the beautiful girl is actually marrying his own niece, and will only find this out at the end. This is not so much a novel as an exercise in packaging. It is very boring.

The Archers (To the Victor the Spoils, Return to Ambridge), by Jock Gallagher (BBC, £2.95 each)

The Archer family are always with us. They are better than neighbours because more predictable, and because they appear with more convenient regularity at the same time each day. So Jock Gallagher has decided to provide them with a properly detailed past. In the first of these mini-sagas Dan Archer returns from the First World War to take over his father's farm, while his brother Ben stays to fight it out at the front before returning to a hero's welcome. Thus the foundation for Archer family rivalry is set. In the second story similar conflicts are played out between Dan's two sons, Jack and Phil. It is still hard to make a living out of the land and even harder for people living in this small rural community to get along with each other. Jack takes to drink but is saved by a wife with Cockney common sense, and a mother with knowing country ways. In the third story Phil's daughter Elizabeth provides the focus for the family's rivalries, and the pressures have broadened out to take in local town life as well as the politics of the hedgerows. Many of today's listeners, of course, would prefer to imagine or just pick up hints about past Archer history. So the stories have to slot into any perception of the past and inevitably, on paper, it all sounds a bit flat.

Anne Barnes

NEW PAPERBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

FICTION
Is This Allowed? by William Donaldson (Futura, £4.99) Middle-aged and psychopathic writer off with druggy toby on Ibiza — nasty but clever satire of our times and morals.
Lord Hamlet's Castle by Hunter Steele (Paladin, £3.95) Hamlet has Elinore bugged; Ophelia is a tramp; Polonius is the boss of the secret police; Ostrich is gay (so what else is new?); the Ghost is a political hoax; lively professional literary prank.
Missing Persons, by Walter Dines (Futura, £3.95) Humour, compassion, no sentimentality, on the side of the underdogs of life.
The Day of Judgment by Salvatore Setta, translated by Patrick Grahg (Collins Harvill, £5.95) Old aristocrat recaptures change and decay and time passing in the isolated Sardinian town of Nuoro, reminiscent of Lampedusa's *The Leopard*.
NON-FICTION
Early Medieval Philosophy (480-1150), by John Marenbon (Routledge, £7.95) Introduction from Neoplatonists to Abelard.
Florence, Rome and the Origins of the Renaissance, by George Holmes (Oxford £10.95) Learned and authoritative portrait with pictures by Oxford medievalist, author of *Dante, Ionia, A Quest*, by Freya Stark (Century, £5.95) Daughter of Herodotus around the vanished civilization that is our yesterday.

Journey to nowhere

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Schubert: Winterreise Ludwig/Lavine (DGCD 423 366-2)
Operatic Recital Gabriele Benackova/Czech Philharmonic/Gregor Supraphon (CD 33CO-1970)

Schubert's last great musical journey, *Winterreise*, is the voyage not of a persona, like his earlier *Die Schöne Müllerin*, but of the mind. There is no reason at all, despite it being originally conceived for high male voice, why a woman should not sing it: indeed, archive performances by Lotte Lehmann and Elena Gerhardt are two of the most potent on old black disc. While Brigitte Fassbaender keeps us waiting for both a recording and a London performance, Christa Ludwig has released her long awaited recording.

It is something of a disappointment, perhaps we have simply waited too long. The generally heavy tread and slow pace of the songs ("Die Post" in this case is certainly second class) seem too often to be dictated by the requirements of the voice rather than of the text. Ludwig's vibrato is heavier now, and it hampers both the focus at *fortissimo* and, to some extent, clarity of articulation. The occasional heavy pull up to a higher note and the momentary lack of definition is sadly compounded by the over-resonant acoustic of the Vienna Musikverein's Brahmsaal, and the somewhat sluggish nature of the piano accompaniment.

James Levine differentiates too little between the changing harmonic colours, the detail of accents, *sfz* and *p* and pauses in which Schubert's music meets his text so intimately. In "Rast", for instance, where Schubert's wanderer pauses to



wonder what drives him on, one can do without a luridly specific serpent with its bite, as long as the context of the song itself provides a suitably stinging psychological application.

Where Ludwig finds the right pace for both music and voice, her distinctive artistry is at once apparent: "Lindenbaum", "Frühlingstraum" and "Nebensonnen" are masterpieces in their own right. But they function as isolated cameos, and the dark vision which must integrate

them into one compelling experience just eludes us. The Czech soprano, Gabriela Benackova, is an elusive creature. Changes in the political and contractual climate have a way of making her postpone and cancel her London appearances; so it is good to have her pinned down at last in a new release from Supraphon. It could have been more generous (the nine tracks clock up to less than 50 minutes) and it could have been more varied (Puccini heavily domi-

nates). But this recital, based on a public concert in Prague, does capture with clarity and immediacy the faultlessly integrated range, the malleability, and the distinctively smoky, often plangent core of an intensely musical voice. Puccini, more than any other composer, brings out Benackova's skill at tuning her voice to every changing second of the orchestration: listen to the ardent simplicity of each inflection of "Mi chiamano Mimi".

Hilary Finch

His master's voice

ROCK RECORDS

James Brown with Full Force: I'm Real (Scotti Bros POLD 5230)
Bob Dylan: Down in the Groove (CBS 480267 1)



Soulmate: James Brown

Thanks to the spread of sampling techniques, the man who wrote the book on black dance music has been co-opted as a central character in the sequel. James Brown's dynamic Sixties rhythm section has featured (unacknowledged) on a plethora of hip hop, house, go-go and rap records, and even when the master's twitches, grunting vocals have not been lifted directly from the original recordings, they are still a prevalent influence on the very latest dancefloor hits.

On *I'm Real*, assisted by the Full Force singing, playing, writing and production team, the godfather of soul pulls up alongside the careening juggernaut of modern styles which he was largely responsible for setting in motion. He blazes through the heavy

struts the engineer to get rid of the echo and add some static to the track, turning the rolling bass line and tight, crackling snare into a heady modern pastiche of the scratchy-sounding records of his past.

Whatever qualities Bob Dylan has to offer these days, contemporary relevance is not among them, and to judge by the pitiful collection of one-take singalongs on *Down in the Groove* the mumbly old folk singer is a long way past caring about anything much more than rounding up his superstar chums (Clapton, Knopfler, Wood et al) for the annual old boys' reunion.

Among lukewarm, roots versions of songs such as "Let's Stick Together" (popularized by Canned Heat and Bryan Ferry) and the trad-folk ballad "Shenandoah" are various country-spiritual dirges, like "Rank Strangers To Me". The four new Dylan compositions, two co-written by the Grateful Dead's Robert Hunter, are all embarrassingly bad.

David Sinclair

Miles of solo style

Mike Stern: Time In Place (Atlantic 781 840-1)
John Scofield: Loud Jazz (Gramavision 18-8801-1 import)

Of all the musicians in Miles Davis's "comeback" bands, few aroused as much comment — though for different reasons — as the guitarists Mike Stern and John Scofield.

It would scarcely be an exaggeration to say that Stern — who appeared on the albums culminating in *Star People* — was the least popular Davis sideman of all time, his stadium rock solos jarring against the trumpeter's fragile tone. Scofield, on the other hand, won over audiences with his more subtle blues inflections. He also furnished some of the most interesting compositions on *Decoy* and *You're Under Arrest*. Stern has adopted a more understated approach since overcoming drug addiction. Judging by reports of his weekly performances in a New York bar, Wes Montgomery has as much influence on his playing as Jimi Hendrix. His new album, however, turns out to be a more hard-headed,

commercial venture. It is, if you like, a glossier version of *Star People*, with Michael Brecker turning in typically efficient solos on two of the tracks, and Bob Berg (another Davis player) looking after the rest. For most of the album Stern resists the temptation to pile cliché upon cliché. His writing, however, is restrained to the point of blandness. Like so many of Davis's acolytes, he may have made the transition to solo artist too early.

Happily, Scofield's latest offering proves a highly satisfactory successor to 1987's *Blue Matter* — which is hardly surprising, since it draws on the same nucleus of players. As with last autumn's concert, the linchpin is the drummer Dennis Chambers, whose fearsome backbeat creates an ideal framework for Scofield's clipped runs. The guest contributions from the once-discredited George Duke lend authenticity to funk numbers such as "Dirty Rice" and "Wabash". Scofield's mastery of tone comes through just as clearly on the introspective "Spy vs Spy".

Clive Davis

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

A stab at Supremacy

Lord Stockton, whose government never recovered from the body-blow of the Profumo scandal, could hardly have suspected that a future Conservative administration would one day help pay for a feature film to be made about the affair. *Scandal*, starring Ian McKellen as John Profumo, which begins shooting next week, is to receive around a sixth of its \$7 million budget from British Screen Finance. BSF is a private sector company but it receives £1.5 million a year from the Department of Trade and Industry. Kenneth Warren, Tory chairman of the Commons select committee on trade and industry, was not amused when I pointed this out to him. Promising to bring the matter before the committee, he said: "What a sad waste of public money. Surely there are better stories to tell which the country would like to hear?"

Moving tribute

When Sir William Rees-Mogg leaves the chairmanship of the Arts Council for the Broadcasting Standards Council he may not have far to move. In a cost-cutting exercise the Arts Council is currently moving its finance section from offices in Yarmouth Place, its backyard, into the main building. It has already had approaches from outfits interested in renting the two floors. One of them: the BSC.

Aesthete's foot

We may soon be able to buy socks bearing the seal of approval of the Royal Academy. Roger de Grey, the president of the R.A., was talked into designing socks by Sophie Mirman, head of Sock Shop, which is sponsoring the Art At Fresco event at the RA on the weekend of June 25/6. During the weekend, a sort of Summer Exhibition Fringe, 18 post-graduate painters will set



Mirman and de Grey up stalls in the courtyard of Burlington House alongside poets and musicians. He tells me: "Although I have grave doubts about myself as a designer, I am a great sock enthusiast. Having got the taste, I could go on designing socks for ever." The de Grey design is of emerald green, cobalt blue and rose spirals.

Who gets what?

There are some surprising financial footnotes to be added to the nation's £7.25 million acquisition of Poussin's "The Finding of Moses" this week. Before the export licence was stopped and money was raised to keep it in Britain, the painting was set to go to the Getty Museum in Malibu. But it was money from the John Paul Getty Jr endowment fund that helped the National Gallery and the National Museum of Wales match the price: so Getty was instrumental in preventing Getty getting it.

● Actors, with a capital "A", are to take over from the alternative comedians in Simon Gray's graduate comedy *The Common Pursuit* at the Phoenix. James Wilby, the star of *Handful of Dust*, which receives its royal premiere next week, is to take over John Sessions's role of Stuart, the founder of the eponymous magazine. John Gordon Sinclair is meanwhile swapping his part for that of Rik Mayall who is also leaving. Gray is now searching for a replacement for Stephen Fry and someone to fill Sinclair's original part.

Victorian value

On Tuesday the Wellington Museum in Apsley House, Hyde Park Corner, begins a week of talks and concerts to commemorate the Battle of Waterloo. The activity is designed to put "No. 1, London" and its art collection on the tourist map but it will also provide an excuse to scrutinize the famous nude statue of Napoleon in the stailwell. The statue became a subject of controversy last month when the art critic Alistair Hicks insisted its concealing fig leaf was a prudish Victorian addition. The museum has been thus far unmoved by his pleas that it diminishes Canova's work, but the next edition of Hicks's magazine, *Antique*, will provide important new evidence that it can be easily removed. Cecil Clutton, a friend of the last Duke of Wellington, has written recalling that during the wartime bombing of London, a blast sent the fig leaf falling to the ground.

Andrew Billen

CHESS

Kasparov passes a new test of strength

Last month in Amsterdam world champion Gary Kasparov recorded the most important tournament victory of his career. The European Options Exchange tournament, officially the highest rated tournament in the history of chess, ended in a Kasparov win, no less than two and a half points clear of his closest rival. This is a tremendous margin of victory and overshadowed similar performances by the legendary Bobby Fischer.

Kasparov. Experts on the spot described Kasparov's winning process as a marvel of technique.

White: Gary Kasparov. Black: Anatoly Karpov. Caro Kann Defence.

1 e4 c5 2 d4 d5 3 Nc2 dxc4 4 Nc3 Nd7 5 Ng5 Ng6 6 e5 0-0 7 Nf3 Qd6 8 0-0 9 Ne4 Nc4 10 e4 0-0 11 c3 c5 12 Bc2 Qc6 13 Re1 Qxd4 14 Rxd4 Qxd8

Kasparov is not averse to exchanges and evidently has no desire to repeat the wild speculations of his win against Karpov in their second game from Amsterdam.

Under severe pressure Kasparov commits what, in the highest sense, can be construed as the decisive error. Black should strive at all costs to avoid weaknesses in his pawn structure, hence 22... Nxc6 is to be preferred.

Now that Kasparov has infiltrated Black's lines of defence, Karpov's pawn weaknesses begin to tell against him.

This counter attack is ultimately proven to be hopeless. If, however, 32... Qxc3 53 Qf8+ Kh7 54 Qc5 dominating the centre and threatening Bg8+. In this case an endgame remarkably similar to that of game 24 from Seville would arise. Black's prospects of survival would be minimal.

Karpov resigned and Kasparov rushed back to Moscow to attend a party thrown by President Reagan at the US Ambassador's residence.

Raymond Keene

BRIDGE

Tough at the top

The Europa Cup is surprisingly unknown in Britain, bearing in mind its prestige. It is the brainchild of André Lemaitre, a former President of the European Bridge League. Now sponsored by Philip Morris, it fills the gap in the years when there is no European championship.

The format is similar to the cup winners' competition in soccer — the team which wins the premier teams competition in its own country is automatically entitled to play in the semi-final. This year 23 nations took part, the largest entry so far.

For the first time Britain, by winning a strong semi-final which included teams from Italy and Germany, qualified for the final. This was a fine achievement by a team which, although the winner of our Gold Cup, has yet to make its mark on the international scene. All credit then to Jeff Morris (captain), John Hassett, Ralph Churney, Ted Revely, Ray Dempster and Steve Whitleton.

In the six-team final, played in Copenhagen, they finished a creditable fourth, behind the full might of Austria (European champions in 1985) and Sweden, the current European champions.

On this hand from Britain's match against Belgium, Ralph Churney put up a spirited barrage in the bidding, and then played a wily defence.

Churney led the ♠2, a happy choice as a top heart would have revealed that East must hold all the remaining cards to account for the bidding. Revely took the first two club tricks and switched to the ♠Q, before reverting to clubs.

Declarer's problem was to find the ♠Q. He played a spade on which Churney craftily contributed the ♠K, declarer re-entered his hand with the ♠Q and played another spade. Churney played the ♠10. Unhappily Lafourcade decided to treat East's ♠Q as a true card, which would leave East with insufficient assets for an opening bid, so he rose with dummy's Ace of spades, felling Revely's ♠Q. A good try by Churney, but it's tough at the top.

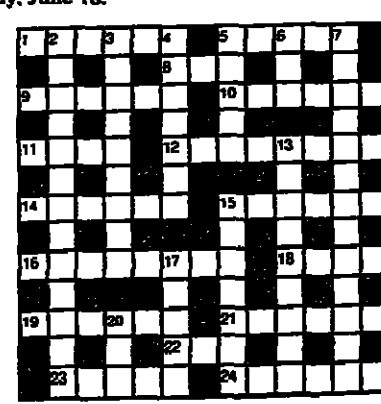
Jeremy Flint

CROSSWORD

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1587

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, June 16. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, June 18.

ACROSS
1 Spearhead cards (6)
5 Despatch (3)
8 High points (3)
9 Puts out (6)
10 Hand-beaten drum (3-3)
11 Pro-Syria Beirut militia (4)
12 Hermetically sealed (8)
14 Fire shield (6)
15 Observation (6)
16 Iver Heath studios (8)
18 Irish parliament (4)
19 Goes round (6)
21 Thumbed (pages) (6)
22 Chatter — (3)
23 Doctrine (5)
24 Ostentatiously smart (6)



DOWN
2 Night-time battling game (6)
3 With low neckline (9)
4 Keep alive (7)
5 Proprietor of The Times 1922-66 (5)
6 Electrical resistance unit (3)
7 Spud recklessness (13)
13 Occurring at once (9)
15 Shot repeatedly (7)
17 Start (5)
20 Chicken pen (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1586
ACROSS: 1 Hip-hop 4 Better 9 Di- among 10 Pies 11 Blow 12 Up- rooted 14 Wallie 15 Lesson 18 Everyone 20 Play 22 Gobbi 23 Freebie 25 Dormer 26 Lovely
DOWN: 1 Hod 2 Play-off 3 Obol 5 Exploded 6 Tact 7 Residency 8 Adept 11 Bow-legged 13 Playtime 16 Soluble 17 Unify 19 Ember 21 Zeno 24 Ely
The winners of prize concise No 1581 are: T. W. Rutland, Lansdowne Avenue, Orpington, Kent; and Mrs Jean Bell, Lingmoor Close, Warrimoor, Dorset.

SOLUTION TO NO 1581 (last Saturday's prize concise)
ACROSS: 1 Ashram 5 Panic 8 Add 9 Danger 10 Dog fox 11 Feb 12 Exortion 14 Enjoys 15 Placed 16 Dad's Army 18 Upr 19 Design 21 Inflow 22 Cor 23 Sloth 24 Totted
DOWN: 2 Space Invaders 3 Righteous 4 Markets 5 Podge 6 Nag 7 Cook one's goose 13 Tescupful 15 Pay dirt 17 Ranch 20 Ido
Name _____
Address _____

THE WEEK AHEAD



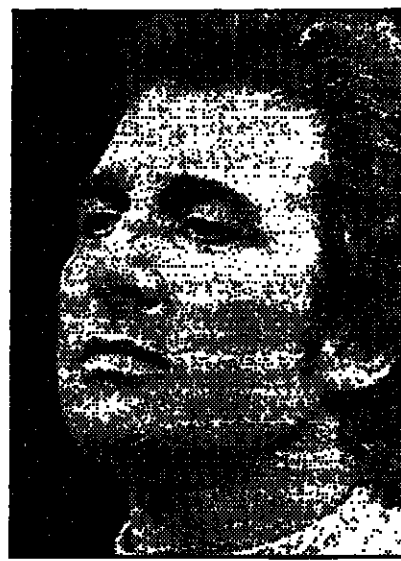
OPERA

FOLK ART: Paul Bunyan, the lumberjack folk-hero of Britten's "choral opera" was said to stand as tall as the Empire State building and to have a stride of 3.7 miles. No wonder it is only his speaking voice we hear in Britten's first stage work and his only operatic collaboration with Auden. Britten rejected the work almost as soon as it was written in 1941, but it was revived in 1974 and can be seen at the Aldeburgh Festival with an all-American cast. Snape Maltings, Suffolk (072 885 3543). Tonight and Thurs 8pm.



FILMS

SOUTHERN COMFORT: Jill Clayburgh plays a fish out of water in *Shy People* (15) — a meaningful drama from director Andrei Konchalovsky, set in the Louisiana bayous. Clayburgh plays a brittle New York journalist who travels down south to research the disappearance of her great uncle Joe. Deep in the swamps she finds Joe's family — a half-crazed ragamuffin bunch, dominated by Barbara Hershey. Cannon, Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148), from Friday.



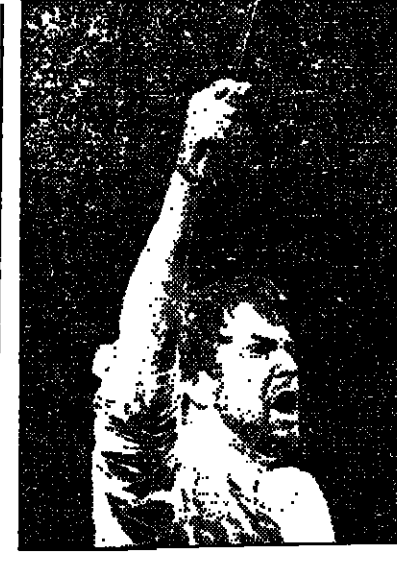
CONCERTS

TOP TENOR: Siegfried Jerusalem has sung leading roles at the Bayreuth Festival, the Vienna State Opera, La Scala, Milan and the Metropolitan, New York. The distinguished tenor will be at the Wigmore Hall on Tuesday where he sings two major song cycles: the beautiful *An die ferne Geliebte* Op 98 by Beethoven on poems by Alois Jeitteles, and Schumann's *Dichterliebe* Op 48, which consists of 16 magnificent settings of Heine. Wigmore Hall (01-935 2141), Tuesday, 7.30pm.



ROCK

MANDELA MARATHON: Mark Knopfler performs with Dire Straits at today's gala concert celebrating Nelson Mandela's 70th birthday. The event is being broadcast live on BBC2 and on Radio 1. Other major acts taking part include George Michael, Eurythmics, Whitney Houston, Simple Minds, the Midge Ure/Phil Collins supergroup, and an all-star soul band with contributions from a host of premier division singers including Roberta Flack. Gates open at 11am at Wembley Stadium, Middlesex (01-902 1234).



THEATRE

ET TU ENCORE: Roger Allam plays Brutus in the 1987 RSC production of *Julius Caesar*, directed by Terry Hands, which has now come in to the Barbican. Nicholas Farrell is Mark Antony and Joseph O'Connor is Caesar in a passionate and straightforward account of the play which won for Allam, particularly, good notices on its Stratford premiere. The production is played without an interval and lasts 2½ hours. Barbican (01-638 8891). Previews today (matinee and evening). Opens Tuesday.



GALLERIES

BOLD RESOLUTION: Jennifer Durrant paints pictures of uncommon decorative impact and has been a champion of serious abstract art since her exhibition debut in the late 1960s. Unlike many abstract artists, who mistakenly believe that big means better, Durrant's work really does get tidier and more confident the bigger it is. Her large paintings are currently seen to advantage in the Royal Academy Summer Show and some important recent works are on show at Newlyn Art Gallery, Penzance (0736 63715). From today.

THEATRE LONDON

THE CHANGELING: Miranda Richardson, Henry Goodman, Paul Jesson and George Harris, directed by Richard Eyre in the 1662 Thomas Middleton/William Rowley study of sexual obsession. Lyttelton (01-928 2252). Previews from Fri. Opens June 23.

DOWN CEMETERY ROAD/AN EVENING WITH OSCAR WILDE: Alan Bennett and Patrick Garland with an entertainment on the life and work of poet Philip Larkin. Donald Sinden gives London premiere of his portrayal of the declining Wilde. Bloomsbury Theatre (01-387 9629). Road Mon. *Wilde* Wed.

THE FOREIGNER: Tom Watt (Lofty in *EastEnders*) takes over from Nicholas Lynsford in the Larry Shue comedy. Albery (01-636 3878). From Mon.

A HARD DAY'S NIGHT: Hull Truck Company tour Frederick Harrison's play about two Beatles-obsessed sisters in 1963 and 1968. Battersea Arts Centre (01-223 2223). Opens Wed.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: Caroline Smith directs Clive Armitage, Ian Talbot, Carol Royle, Cliff Howells in the perfect play for this theatre. Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park (01-486 2431). Previews Mon and Tues. Opens Wed. In repertory.

PANORAMA: Pinter-Dirk Uys play about two South African teachers playing host to the daughter of a black anti-apartheid leader. With Jemma Redgrave. King's Head, Islington (01-226 1916). Previews from Tues. Opens June 20.

THE TRAITOR: James Shirley's Caroline tragedy in its first production this century. Young Vic Studio (01-928 6363). Previews Mon and Tues. Opens Wed.

OUT OF TOWN

COLCHESTER: The Heart of a Dog: British premiere of 1920s Soviet satire by Bulgakov, adapted by Chervinsky and translated by Michael Glenney. Essex University Theatre, Wivenhoe Park (0206 873261). Thurs to June 18 only.

DERBY: The Morticians' Tea Party: Black Dog company in a black comedy by Hugh Ellis. Playhouse Studio. Wed and Thurs.

LANCASTER: As You Like It: Dukes Theatre promenade opera production, joined later in repertory by *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. Williamson Park (0524 66645). Preview Tues. Opens Wed.

MANCHESTER: Action Replay: Fay Weldon play about three women, three men and their interrelationships across 25 years. Directed by Bridget Larmour. Contact (061-274 4400). Preview Wed. Opens Thurs.

CONCERTS

FRENCH IMAGES: Rafael Frunbeck de Burgos conducts the LSO in Ibert's delightful *Escapes*, Ravel's jazzy *G major Piano Concerto* (Alicia de Larrocha, soloist) and Bartók's *Symphonie fantastique*. Part of Images de France. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 8891). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

RADU LUPU: This exceptional pianist plays Haydn's *F minor Variations*, Sonatas Hob XVI/20 and 39, Schubert's "Wanderer" Fantasy and Impromptu D 935 Nos 1 and 3. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, or 01-928 8800). Tomorrow, 7.45pm.

BRAVE WEBER: Janice Weber, a pianist little known here, undertakes an exceedingly demanding programme consisting of the 1838 version of Liszt's 12 Transcendental Studies and

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

FUNEST

(a) Causing or portending death or evil, deadly, disastrous, deeply deplorable; from the Latin *funestus* concerned with death.

ECTHIPSIS

(a) In Latin prosody the "squeezing out" of a syllable ending in -u before a vowel.

DIBETZER

(a) Vindictive for a man or woman who advises a *kidnapper*, the person who comments from the sidelines, offers unsolicited advice, makes wisecracks, and generally sticks his nose in.

PYSMATIC

(a) Pertaining to questioning, always asking questions, from the Greek *psimo* a question.

Charles Ives's *Sonata No 1*, St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Tues, 7.30pm.

SHELLEY'S SHOW: Howard Shelley conducts the City of London Sinfonia in Mozart's *Symphony No 40*, John Wallace solos in Haydn's *Trumpet Concerto*, Shelley himself solos in *Fidelio*, and on Thurs and Sat June 18 the company's provocative and squalid *Carmen*. All performances start at 7.15pm. Alhambra Theatre, Bradford (0274 752000).

RADIO

THE HUNTERS: Launching a series on autograph collectors, Alan Titchmarsh talks to the columnist Sean Rook on why she pursues the signatures of the famous. Radio 4, tomorrow, 9-9.15pm.

CARVEL IN CONVERSATION: Dr Garret FitzGerald, the former Irish premier, is the subject in the first in a new series of interviews by Robert Carvel. Radio 4, Thurs, 11.25-11.50am.



● In 1936 W.H. Auden and Christopher Isherwood wrote *The Ascent of F6*, a metaphysical drama about a climber's attempt to conquer a Himalayan peak. It is a piece that is well known but little performed and next week's Radio 3 production is the first since the 1930s using the full text and complete Benjamin Britten score. Mick Ford plays the climber Michael Ramsom, with Patricia Routledge (above) as Mrs Ramsom, and Bernard Hepton. Radio 3, Friday, 7.30-10pm.

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: One last chance to see *Peter Grimes* tonight at 7.30pm; Dame Joan Sutherland's *Anna Bolena* continues its run on Mon and Sat, June 19 at 7pm; and on Tues and Fri at 7.30pm, further performances of *Macbeth* with

Renato Bruson and Elizabeth Connell. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

OPERA NORTH: Last week of its spring tour: on Tues and Fri *Tosca* with Edith Davis in the title role; on Wed a somewhat disappointing *Fidelio*, and on Thurs and Sat June 18 the company's provocative and squalid *Carmen*. All performances start at 7.15pm. Alhambra Theatre, Bradford (0274 752000).

SCOTTISH OPERA: Reaches Liverpool on tour with Leonard Bernstein's opera-musical *Candide* on Thurs and Fri; Elijah Moshinsky's exquisite new production of *La Bohème* on Tues and Sat June 18; and a single performance of the company's playful *Così fan tutte* on Wed. All performances start at 7.15pm. Empire Theatre, Liverpool (051 7091555).

DANCE

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: *Giselle* today, matinee plus evening, ends the season in the big top. Cambridge (0223 463377).

SCOTTISH BALLET: *Romeo and Juliet* ends its tour today, matinee plus evening. Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041 331 1234).

VICTORIA MARKS: New work by a choreographer from New York for British and American dancers. The Place (01-387 0031).

RAMBERT DANCE COMPANY: Tonight's performance includes the last showing of David Gordon's *Mates*. Mary Evelyn's *Trace* and Richard Alston's *Rhapsody in Blue* premiere Mon-Wed, with Cunningham's *Sappho* replacing the previously advertised new work by Stephen Davies. Alston's *Puccinella* and Telly's *Pierrot Lunaire* are given Thurs to June 18. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916).

JAZZ

PINKSI ZOO: Jan Kopinski's vaguely "harmolodic" electric quartet has hitherto won more acclaim on the Continent than at home. Jazz Café, London N16 (01-359 4936) Fri, Sat.

STEPHANIE GRAPPELLI: At 80, the violinist rarely needs to deviate from the successful recipe of swing standards. Barbican Centre, London EC2 (01-638 8891) Thurs.

ROCK

AZTEC CAMERA: With "Somewhere In My Heart" a big hit, the long-overlooked Roddy Frame is suddenly a star. Tomorrow, Eden Court Theatre, Inverness (0453 221718); Mon, Music Hall, Aberdeen (0224 641122); Tues, Edinburgh Playhouse (031 557 2590); Thurs, Leeds University (0532 439071); Fri, De Montfort Hall, Leicester (0533 544444).

WET WET WET: Cuddly Scottish pop stars, currently celebrating their fourth week at No 1. Tues and Wed, SECC, Glasgow (041 248 3000); Fri, Whitley Bay Ice Rink (091 252 6240).

RY COODER: Second leg of the tour with his Moola-Bande Rhythm Aces. Tomorrow, SECC, Glasgow (041 248 3000); Mon and Tues, Wembley Arena, Middlesex (01-902 1234).

TELEVISION

EVIL: Start of a three-part series, which includes studies of the Moors Murderers and the Yorkshire Ripper. Channel 4, Wed, 9-10pm.



● As the European Football Championship gets under way in West Germany, the manager of the home team "Kaiser" Franz Beckenbauer is interviewed by Hugh McIlvanney. Beckenbauer looks back (with the help of archive film) at his brilliant career as a player, reflects on the failure of soccer in the United States and gives his assessment of the current England team. Channel 4, Wednesday, 11pm-midnight.

THE BULL IN WINTER: Omnibus film on the last years of Pablo Picasso, with contributions from his family and close friends. BBC1, Fri, 10.10-11.20pm.

FILMS

MAYBE BABY (15): Overwrought teenage pregnancy drama, Molly Snowflake crisis here yes out as the high school student with a baby on the way. With Randal Batinkoff, directed by John G. Avildson. Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527), from Fri.

PRISON (18): The prison drama meets the horror genre in this routine product from the masters of shock, Empire Pictures. With Lane Smith as the guilt-ridden prisoner who once watched an innocent man fry. Directed by Renny Harlin. Prince Charles (01-437 8181), from Fri.

MAN ON FIRE (18): Vigilante melodrama with plenty of blood and tears, from French director Eli Chouraqui. With Scott Glenn as the bodyguard who goes on the rampage when his young employer (Jane Fonda) is kidnapped. Cannon Pantons Street (01-930 0631), from Fri.

FILMS ON TV

DRAGONWYCK (1946): Intense romantic thriller in which Gene Tierney marries 19th-century landowner Vincent Price and discovers he is a murderer. Channel 4, Wed, 2.30-4.25pm.

LET THE PEOPLE SING (1942): Cherry piece of populism from J.B. Priestley about an out-of-work comedian (Edward Rigby) fighting to save a village hall. Channel 4, Thursday, 5-7pm.

GALLERIES

JEFFREY CAMP RA: A major retrospective of 65 paintings done since 1949. Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter (0392 265858). From today.

THE NICHOLSONS: Fabric designs and paintings from the 1930s to the 1950s by Nancy, Kit, E Q and the more famous Ben. York City Art Gallery (90904 623839). From today.

LANDSCAPE AND BEYOND: Paintings by Thérèse Oulton, Lance Smith, Chris Lebrun, Michael Porter and Hughie O'Donoghue in which landscape is much more than just topography. Cleveland Gallery, Middlesbrough (0642 248155). From today.

PHOTOGRAPHY

D-MAX: The work of six photographers engaging some of the problems and issues surrounding the black community in the UK. Huddersfield Art Gallery, Princess Alexandra Walk, Huddersfield (0484 513808), until July 2.

DAME EDNA AND FRIENDS: Love her or hate her, Dame Edna Everage is a photogenic megastar. John Timbers, her personal photographer for a number of years, is himself something of a stylish performer. This show catches the many changing faces of Dame Edna. National Centre of Photography, RPS, The Octagon, Milsom St Bath (0225 62841) from today.

WALKS

HISTORIC DOCKLANDS AND THAMES: meet today. Tower Hill tube, 11.15am, £3 (also next Sat).

VILLAGE LONDON - SPITALFIELDS: meet tomorrow. Aldgate East tube, 11.15am, £3.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: Music programme includes British premieres of John Adams' *Nixon in China* by Houston Grand Opera, conducted by the composer; and Greek by Mark Anthony Turnage to text by Steven Berkoff. Dance from Michael Clark and company, and Matsuyama Ballet from Japan; Ryudoguni Rock and Yarin Nokai classical musicians; and

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page

SATURDAY

BBC1 WALES: 5.40pm-5.45 Sports News Wales. **SCOTLAND:** 5.40pm-5.45 Sports News Scotland. **NORTHERN IRELAND:** 5.40pm-5.45 Sports News Northern Ireland. **Wales:** 5.40-5.45 Regional news and sport.

ANGLIA: As London except 5.55pm-5.59 Anglia News, Sport & Weather.

BORDER: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Border News, Sport & Weather.

CENTRAL: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Central News, Sport & Weather.

CHANNEL: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Channel News, Sport & Weather.

CHANNEL: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Channell News, Sport & Weather.

GRANADIA: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Granada News, Sport & Weather.

HITV WEST: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Hitv West News, Sport & Weather.

HITV WALES: As Hitv West except 1.30am-1.35am Hitv Wales News, Sport & Weather.

SCOTTISH: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Scottish News, Sport & Weather.

TSW: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Tsw News, Sport & Weather.

TVS: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Tvs News, Sport & Weather.

TYNE TEES: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Tyne Tees News, Sport & Weather.

ULSTER: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Ulster News, Sport & Weather.

YORKSHIRE: As London except 1.30am-1.35am Yorkshire News, Sport & Weather.

S4C: Starts 7.30pm Ryfylle Rhymwylod Selydd y Cymru 9.30 Dispatches 10.15 What the Papers Say 10.30 Gardener's Guide 11.00 What's the News 11.30 Time to Remember 12.00 Teiera Unars 12.30 Masters of Britain 1.00 Film: Adventures of Don Juan 2.00 News 2.30 Falcione's Tale 3.00 Fight to Rejoice 3.30 Street Hockey 7.00 Triple Net 7.35 Newydd 7.50 Dd I Hw 8.20 Manafon 8.45 Ryfylle Rhymwylod 8.45 Film: The Sea Shall Not Have Them 11.30 After Dark 2.00am Closedown.

RTE 1: Starts 11.00am On the Edge 11.30 Mandy 11.50 Mandy 12.00 Mandy 12.10 Mandy 12.20 Mandy 12.30 Mandy 12.40 Mandy 12.50 Mandy 1.00 Mandy 1.10 Mandy 1.20 Mandy 1.30 Mandy 1.40 Mandy 1.50 Mandy 2.00 Mandy 2.10 Mandy 2.20 Mandy 2.30 Mandy 2.40 Mandy 2.50 Mandy 3.00 Mandy 3.10 Mandy 3.20 Mandy 3.30 Mandy 3.40 Mandy 3.50 Mandy 4.00 Mandy 4.10 Mandy 4.20 Mandy 4.30 Mandy 4.40 Mandy 4.50 Mandy 5.00 Mandy 5.10 Mandy 5.20 Mandy 5.30 Mandy 5.40 Mandy 5.50 Mandy 6.00 Mandy 6.10 Mandy 6.20 Mandy 6.30 Mandy 6.40 Mandy 6.50 Mandy 7.00 Mandy 7.10 Mandy 7.20 Mandy 7.30 Mandy 7.40 Mandy 7.50 Mandy 8.00 Mandy 8.10 Mandy 8.20 Mandy 8.30 Mandy 8.40 Mandy 8.50 Mandy 9.00 Mandy 9.10 Mandy 9.20 Mandy 9.30 Mandy 9.40 Mandy 9.50 Mandy 10.00 Mandy 10.10 Mandy 10.20 Mandy 10.30 Mandy 10.40 Mandy 10.50 Mandy 11.00 Mandy 11.10 Mandy 11.20 Mandy 11.30 Mandy 11.40 Mandy 11.50 Mandy 12.00 Mandy 12.10 Mandy 12.20 Mandy 12.30 Mandy 12.40 Mandy 12.50 Mandy 1.00 Mandy 1.10 Mandy 1.20 Mandy 1.30 Mandy 1.40 Mandy 1.50 Mandy 2.00 Mandy 2.10 Mandy 2.20 Mandy 2.30 Mandy 2.40 Mandy 2.50 Mandy 3.00 Mandy 3.10 Mandy 3.20 Mandy 3.30 Mandy 3.40 Mandy 3.50 Mandy 4.00 Mandy 4.10 Mandy 4.20 Mandy 4.30 Mandy 4.40 Mandy 4.50 Mandy 5.00 Mandy 5.10 Mandy 5.20 Mandy 5.30 Mandy 5.40 Mandy 5.50 Mandy 6.00 Mandy 6.10 Mandy 6.20 Mandy 6.30 Mandy 6.40 Mandy 6.50 Mandy 7.00 Mandy 7.10 Mandy 7.20 Mandy 7.30 Mandy 7.40 Mandy 7.50 Mandy 8.00 Mandy 8.10 Mandy 8.20 Mandy 8.30 Mandy 8.40 Mandy 8.50 Mandy 9.00 Mandy 9.10 Mandy 9.20 Mandy 9.30 Mandy 9.40 Mandy 9.50 Mandy 10.00 Mandy 10.10 Mandy 10.20 Mandy 10.30 Mandy 10.40 Mandy 10.50 Mandy 11.00 Mandy 11.10 Mandy 11.20 Mandy 11.30 Mandy 11.40 Mandy 11.50 Mandy 12.00 Mandy 12.10 Mandy 12.20 Mandy 12.30 Mandy 12.40 Mandy 12.50 Mandy 1.00 Mandy 1.10 Mandy 1.20 Mandy 1.30 Mandy 1.40 Mandy 1.50 Mandy 2.00 Mandy 2.10 Mandy 2.20 Mandy 2.30 Mandy 2.40 Mandy 2.50 Mandy 3.00 Mandy 3.10 Mandy 3.20 Mandy 3.30 Mandy 3.40 Mandy 3.50 Mandy 4.00 Mandy 4.10 Mandy 4.20 Mandy 4.30 Mandy 4.40 Mandy 4.50 Mandy 5.00 Mandy 5.10 Mandy 5.20 Mandy 5.30 Mandy 5.40 Mandy 5.50 Mandy 6.00 Mandy 6.10 Mandy 6.20 Mandy 6.30 Mandy 6.40 Mandy 6.50 Mandy 7.00 Mandy 7.10 Mandy 7.20 Mandy 7.30 Mandy 7.40 Mandy 7.50 Mandy 8.00 Mandy 8.10 Mandy 8.20 Mandy 8.30 Mandy 8.40 Mandy 8.50 Mandy 9.00 Mandy 9.10 Mandy 9.20 Mandy 9.30 Mandy 9.40 Mandy 9.50 Mandy 10.00 Mandy 10.10 Mandy 10.20 Mandy 10.30 Mandy 10.40 Mandy 10.50 Mandy 11.00 Mandy 11.10 Mandy 11.20 Mandy 11.30 Mandy 11.40 Mandy 11.50 Mandy 12.00 Mandy 12.10 Mandy 12.20 Mandy 12.30 Mandy 12.40 Mandy 12.50 Mandy 1.00 Mandy 1.10 Mandy 1.20 Mandy 1.30 Mandy 1.40 Mandy 1.50 Mandy 2.00 Mandy 2.10 Mandy 2.20 Mandy 2.30 Mandy 2.40 Mandy 2.50 Mandy 3.00 Mandy 3.10 Mandy 3.20 Mandy 3.30 Mandy 3.40 Mandy 3.50 Mandy 4.00 Mandy 4.10 Mandy 4.20 Mandy 4.30 Mandy 4.40 Mandy 4.50 Mandy 5.00 Mandy 5.10 Mandy 5.20 Mandy 5.30 Mandy 5.40 Mandy 5.50 Mandy 6.00 Mandy 6.10 Mandy 6.20 Mandy 6.30 Mandy 6.40 Mandy 6.50 Mandy 7.00 Mandy 7.10 Mandy 7.20 Mandy 7.30 Mandy 7.40 Mandy 7.50 Mandy 8.00 Mandy 8.10 Mandy 8.20 Mandy 8.30 Mandy 8.40 Mandy 8.50 Mandy 9.00 Mandy 9.10 Mandy 9.20 Mandy 9.30 Mandy 9.40 Mandy 9.50 Mandy 10.00 Mandy 10.10 Mandy 10.20 Mandy 10.30 Mandy 10.40 Mandy 10.50 Mandy 11.00 Mandy 11.10 Mandy 11.20 Mandy 11.30 Mandy 11.40 Mandy 11.50 Mandy 12.00 Mandy 12.10 Mandy 12.20 Mandy 12.30 Mandy 12.40 Mandy 12.50 Mandy 1.00 Mandy 1.10 Mandy 1.20 Mandy 1.30 Mandy 1.40 Mandy 1.50 Mandy 2.00 Mandy 2.10 Mandy 2.20 Mandy 2.30 Mandy 2.40 Mandy 2.50 Mandy 3.00 Mandy 3.10 Mandy 3.20 Mandy 3.30 Mandy 3.40 Mandy 3.50 Mandy 4.00 Mandy 4.10 Mandy 4.20 Mandy 4.30 Mandy 4.40 Mandy 4.50 Mandy 5.00 Mandy 5.10 Mandy 5.20 Mandy 5.30 Mandy 5.40 Mandy 5.50 Mandy 6.00 Mandy 6.10 Mandy 6.20 Mandy 6.30 Mandy 6.40 Mandy 6.50 Mandy 7.00 Mandy 7.10 Mandy 7.20 Mandy 7.30 Mandy 7.40 Mandy 7.50 Mandy 8.00 Mandy 8.10 Mandy 8.20 Mandy 8.30 Mandy 8.40 Mandy 8.50 Mandy 9.00 Mandy 9.10 Mandy 9.20 Mandy 9.30 Mandy 9.40 Mandy 9.50 Mandy 10.00 Mandy 10.10 Mandy 10.20 Mandy 10.30 Mandy 10.40 Mandy 10.50 Mandy 11.00 Mandy 11.10 Mandy 11.20 Mandy 11.30 Mandy 11.40 Mandy 11.50 Mandy 12.00 Mandy 12.10 Mandy 12.20 Mandy 12.30 Mandy 12.40 Mandy 12.50 Mandy 1.00 Mandy 1.10 Mandy 1.20 Mandy 1.30 Mandy 1.40 Mandy 1.50 Mandy 2.00 Mandy 2.10 Mandy 2.20 Mandy 2.30 Mandy 2.40 Mandy 2.50 Mandy 3.00 Mandy 3.10 Mandy 3.20 Mandy 3.30 Mandy 3.40 Mandy 3.50 Mandy 4.00 Mandy 4.10 Mandy 4.20 Mandy 4.30 Mandy 4.40 Mandy 4.50 Mandy 5.00 Mandy 5.10 Mandy 5.20 Mandy 5.30 Mandy 5.40 Mandy 5.50 Mandy 6.00 Mandy 6.10 Mandy 6.20 Mandy 6.30 Mandy 6.40 Mandy 6.50 Mandy 7.00 Mandy 7.10 Mandy 7.20 Mandy 7.30 Mandy 7.40 Mandy 7.50 Mandy 8.00 Mandy 8.10 Mandy 8.20 Mandy 8.30 Mandy 8.40 Mandy 8.50 Mandy 9.00 Mandy 9.10 M

SUNDAY

● Television companies know too well that they cannot please all of the people all of the time. There will always be complaints that there is too much snooker, or too much cricket or football. With the European Championship getting under way in West Germany, the anti-football lobby must already be sharpening its knives. And there will surely be those who are outraged that an entire channel, for an entire day, is being given over to a rock extravaganza (even apart from the South African Government which has its particular political objection). I am referring, of course, to the Nelson Mandela 70th Birthday Concert. all 10 hours of

which is being broadcast live from Wembley Stadium, starting at 12.15pm. I think it is a bold and justifiable piece of scheduling. Not since Live Aid has such a line-up of musical talent been gathered together for a single occasion, with the advantage that this time the event promises to be more coherently structured, with groups of acts scheduled roughly every hour. It should make outstanding television, while for those who like stereo sound, Radio 1 offers a simultaneous transmission.

Peter Waymark



● It was a good idea to revive John Galsworthy's Edwardian play, *Strife* (BBC2, 8.10pm), but even allowing for languid treatment from the director, Michael Darlow, this remains a period piece which offers little insight into the world of today. The subject is industrial relations, examined through a strike in a Welsh tin-plate works. The dispute has been rumbling on for months and the main obstacles to a settlement are the intransigent company chairman (Peter Vaughan) and the equally stubborn workers.

equally stubborn workers leader (Timothy West). Al-

the union and several members of the board, is urging conciliation and compromise. The trouble with the play is that the arguments are so finely balanced, and the positions of the protagonists so fixed, that it comes over more as a debate than a drama. At the time (1908) *Strife* broke new ground in the middle-brow theatre by giving a fair hearing to the workers' cause. But as for contemporary relevance, Galsworthy's idea that all you need to solve an industrial dispute is to remove the extremists on both sides and let the moderates prevail seems a little too simplistic.

100

9.25 Teesra Kinara. Pakistani drama series.

9.30 Settlers' Tales. Causo, one of first generation Asian immigrants.

10.00 The World This Week includes an interview with Democratic front-runner Michael Dukakis and a report on the Nicaraguan truck talks.

11.00 Network 7 includes an interview with pop superstars Bros, plus a report on identical twins.

1.00 Wired. Includes Elton John and Ziggy Marley.

2.00 Lost in Space (b/w). Vintage American sci-fi series.

3.00 Film: Frenchman's Creek (1944). Adaptation of a Daphne du Maurier story about an upper class lady who falls for a dashing French pirate. Starring Basil Rathbone, Joan Fontaine and Arturo de Cordova. Directed by Mitchell Leisen.

5.05 Kangaroo Courting.

5.10 News Summary and analysis.

5.15 The Business Programme. Includes an interview with Michael Julien, the new chief executive of Storehouse; plus a report from South Korea.

6.00 Rowing. The Leyland DAI Power Sprint held at the River Sever.

7.00 Challenge to Sport. Junior motor-cross (r).

7.15 The Storyteller. A dramatized European folktale by the Brothers Grimm (Dracula).

7.45 Dance on Four: Trita Brown "Newark". A piece by one of America's foremost experimentalists in choreography.

8.20 People to People: A Peace of Her Mind. Documentary tracing the history of women's peace work during this century.

9.20 Animal Traffic. Disturbing documentary about the worldwide trade in live animals and animal products (Orca).

10.20 Film: Seratoga (1937) (b/w). Jean Harlow stars as a young woman trying to pay off her sister's debt to a high roller gambler. With Clark Gable. Directed by Jack Conway.

12.05 Film: In Search of Feminine (1980). Comparison of the worldliness of a film unit with the rural, uneducated Bengalis who inhabit the village they are using as a location. Starring Smriti Paul. Subtitles. Directed by Mrinal Sen.

Radio

11.15 BBC Symphony Orchestra Spring Tour: John Pritchard conducts Tchaikovsky (*Overture-fantasia: Hamlet, Op 67a*); Krommer (Oboe Concerto No 2 in F, Op 52) with Heinz Holliger (oboe). Includes 12.00 Interval Reading 12.05 Beethoven (Symphony No 3 in E flat, *Eroica*)

1.10 Salvatore Accardo: the violinist plays Beethoven

o 2 in D, Op 94

2.10 Writers Talking: Allan Massie talks to award-winning poet and novelist Iain Crichton Smith who writes both in English and in his native Gaelic (7)

2.35 Beethoven
Arrangements: Piano Trio in D (arr from Symphony No 2); Beaux Arts Trio. Final programme of the series

3.15 BBC Singers in St Albans Abbey: Conducted by John

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Radio 4

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e, Tuesday

views and comment about radio and its programmes
4.00 Miss, Mountains and Generosity: Ian Bradley reflects on the romantic image which surrounds the Scottish highlands
4.47 Talking Scotch: The list of five forays beyond the farm gate
5.00 News: Down the River Tyne (new series) Cliff Morgan travels the River Tyne, meeting the people who live and work there
5.30 Exploring Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 News
6.15 Feedback: With Chris Dunderly (r)
6.30 International Assignment
7.00 News: 8, 9 & 10. Candy Gourlay explores the sociology of the dinner party
7.30 Raffles: Six stories by E.W. Hornung (2)
8.00 The Criminals' Club (2 of 6)
8.30 Bookshelf (r)
9.00 A Word in Edgewise: Brian Redhead with Lady Ewart-Bliggs, Jeremy Seabrook and Ian Linden
9.20 Radio 2: 693KHz/443MHz/97.3
10.2 1152KHz/261MHz/VHF 80.3

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P.W.

9.25 **Teesra Kinaar.** Pakistani drama series.

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5.05 **Kangaroo Courting.**

5.10 **News Summary** and weather.

5.15 **The Business** Programme, includes an interview with Michael Julien, the new chief executive of Storehouse; plus a report from South Korea.

6.00 **Rowing.** The Layland Dal Power Sprint held at River Severn.

6.10 **Challenge to Sport.** Junior moto-cross (r).

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12.05 **Film: In Search of Famine** (1980). Comparison of the worldliness of a film unit with the rural, uneducated Bengalis who inhabit the village they are using as a location. Starring Sima Pal. Subtitles. Directed by Minal Sen.

4.45 **Celebrity Recital:** Paul Tortelier (cello) and Geoffrey Pratley (piano) play *Saint-Saëns (Sonata No 1 in C minor, Op 32); Debussy (Sonata in D minor); Tortelier (Mon Chéri); Includes 5.40 Interval Reading 5.45 Brahms (Sonata No 1 in E minor, Op 38)*

6.15 **Isles Apart:** John Kesy reports on general elections in Indonesia and the

7.00 Arensky: Piano Concerto in F minor, Op. 2: USSR RSO under Alexeev with Alexei Cherkassov (piano)

7.30 Almeida Festival: Nash Ensemble under Friedhelm Fromm perform Anthony Payne (Sea Change) and Nicholas Maw (Ghost Dances).

8.10 Interval: includes a review of the performances heard so far

8.25 Colin Matthews (The Great Journey)

9.30 The Surprise of Being: Poems from Portuguese poet Fernando Pessoa. Pina Vardimões n.p.a. Port. ans

performed by Christos Pittas
9.50 Beethoven: Symphony
 No 4 in B flat: Berlin
 Philharmonic Orchestra
 under von Karajan
10.30 Choral Evensong
11.30 Haydn: Symphony No 67
 in F (L'Estro Armonico)
12.00 News **12.05** Closedown

Series) Alan Titchmarsh goes in search of the autograph hunter

9.15 The Natural History Programme (1) 9.59
Weather
10.00 News
10.10 PM With Passport and Paracot:
Seven true stories of travel and adventure compiled and written by Julia Kasy. (2)
10.30 The Story of an African Lioness who
King to Siam to teach the
Went to Siam in 1862 (5)
11.00 In Committee: A weekly
report on the latest news
from Parliament's select
committees
11.30 Seeds of Faith: Lorraine
Worsley talks to Christians
of different ages (2) People
in Their 20s
12.00-12.30 News, incl 12.20
Weather
12.30 Shiping Forecast
12.35 As above except 7.00-
10.00pm Open University 7.00
Arts Review 7.20 Milton in His
Time 7.40 Lord Bridges on
Victorian Culture 1.25-2.00pm
Programme News and
Options 2.00 Community Matters
2.30 Education Matters 3.00
Modern European Authors: Robert
Musil 3.30 Euro Magazine
3.50/3.50pm: VH-68-90.2. Radio 3:
Radio 3: 15.48h/17.19pm: VH1935 R

WORLD SERVICE

[illegible]

5.55 am Shipping Forecast **5.50**
 News: Shipping
6.00 Parade (c) **6.30** News
 Morning has Broken (s)
6.55 Weather
7.00 News **7.10** Sunday Papers
7.15 Waterlines: Cairn
 News reports from the
 NatWest Weymouth Olympic
 Week
7.40 Sunday Int **7.55**
 Weather **8.00** News **8.10**
 Sunday Papers
8.50 The Week's Good Cause:
 Roger Royle speaks on
 behalf of the Myalgic
 Encephalomyelitis
 Association **8.55** Weather
9.00 News **9.10** Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter from the States by
 Mollie Cooke
9.30 Morning Service: from
 the
 Burnley Meeting Free
 Church, Bedford (s)
10.15 The Archers: Omnibus
11.15 News: Patricia Pugh Bergen
 with a review of the week's
 newspapers
11.30 Pick of the Week (r) (s)
12.15 Desert Island Discs: Today's
 guest is The Rt Hon Douglas
 Hogg MP (r) (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World This Weekday
1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time:
 With Clay Jones

Radio 4

3.30 *Top Male* (1) (8)
3.30 *Radio Pick Parade:*
Laurie Taylor with news,
views and comment about
radio and its programmes
4.00 *Mists, Mountains and*
Stornorain: Ian Bradley
looks on the romantic
image which surrounds the
Scottish highlands
4.47 *Talking Stone:* The last of five
forays beyond the farm gate
with Phil Smith
5.00 *News: Down the River Tyne*
(New Series) Cliff Morgan
travels the River Tyne,
meeting the people who live
and work there
5.30 *Shipping Forecast* **5.55**
Weather
6.00 *News*
6.15 *Feedback* With Chris
Dunkley (1)
6.30 *International Assignment*
7.00 *News: 8 & 10.15.* Candy
News: Down the sociology
of the dinner party
7.30 *Raffin': Six stories by E W*
Hornett (2)
The Criminologists' Club (2 of 6)
(1)
8.00 *Michael* (1)
8.30 *A Word in Edgways:* Brian
Redhead with Lady Ewart-
Biggs, Jeremy Seabrook
and Ian Linden
9.0. 2. *Radio 2: 693KHz/433M/90.3*
Hz: 1152KHz/261M/VHF 87.5

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Series) Alan Thompson goes in search of the authorgraph himself

9.15 The Natural History Programme (r) 9.50 Weather

10.00 News

10.15 With Passport and Parolot: Seven true stories of travel and adventure compiled and written by Julia Casey. (2)

Notions of Liberty: The story of Anna Lockwood who went to Salem to teach the Kith's children in 1682 (c)

11.00 In Committee: A weekly report on the latest news from Parliament's select committees

11.30 Seeds of Faith: Lorraine Worsley takes to Christians of different ages; (2) People in their 20s

12.00-12.30 News, incl. 12.20 Weather

12.30 Shopping Forecast

VHF as above except 7.00-7.05pm Open University 7.05 Arts Review 7.20 Milton in His Times 7.40 Lord Briggs on Victorian Culture 1.35-2.00pm Programme News

2.00-2.15pm Community Matters

2.30 Education Matters 3.00 Modern European Authors: Robert Musil 3.40 Eurozone magazine

7.30/30m/VHF: 68-90.2. Radio 3: night 1548k/1k/194m/VHF35 R

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/205m; 108.9kHz/275m; VHF-88-90.2. Radio 2: 69.3kHz/433m; 90.9kHz/330m; VHF-88-90.2. Radio 3: 121.5kHz/247m; VHF-90-92.5. Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF-92-95. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF95.8. BBC Radio London: 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.9. World Service: MF645kHz/463m.

MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1468.2 (+4.5)	US dollar 1.8175 (+0.0050)
FT-SE 100 1849.8 (+8.3)	W German mark 3.1243 (+0.0023)
USM (Datastream) 157.63 (+0.30)	Trade-weighted 76.8 (+0.1)

THE TIMES

SATURDAY JUNE 11 1988

PART 2
BUSINESS & FINANCE 25-29
SPORT 38-42

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Rowntree trust move cleared

The support given to Rowntree, the York-based confectionery group, by one of its key charitable trusts has been cleared after discussions with the Attorney General.

Last night the Joseph Rowntree Memorial Trust, which owns 3.8 per cent of Rowntree, said it had been told that the "Attorney General is entirely satisfied that the trustees have acted properly."

The trust has pledged its support to the board despite takeover bids from both Nestlé and Jacobs Suchard, the Swiss groups which together control 46 per cent of Rowntree.

This prompted an approach from the Attorney General's office aimed at ensuring it was acting entirely independently.

Belgium job

M Hervé de Carmoy, who resigned recently as head of Midland Bank's global banking operations, is set to become chief executive of Société Générale de Belgique, Belgium's largest company.

Baring Japan

Baring Securities, the securities subsidiary of Baring Brothers, took up its seat yesterday on the Tokyo Stock Exchange. The company is one of only 16 overseas groups to have been given membership of the TSE.

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2108.11 (+14.78)
Tokyo	Nikkei Average	27920.36 (-151.66)
Hong Kong		
	Hang Seng	2847.42 (+6.59)
Amsterdam	Gen	254.5 (+0.1)
Sydney	AO	1586.7 (-3.5)
Frankfurt		
	Commerzbank	1417.7 (-12.1)
Brussels		
	General	4899.9 (+14.0)
	Paribas	344.9 (+0.1)
	Zürich SKA Gen	455.3 (+3.5)
London		
	FT-A All-Share	955.97 (+4.10)
	FT-100	1041.18 (+3.35)
	FT Gold Mines	80.19 (+0.05)
	FT Fixed Interest	98.12 (+0.04)
	FT Govt Secs	228.6 (+0.1)

Recent issues
Closing prices

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:		
Tate & Lyle	819½p (+22)	
Sun Alliance	979p (+43)	
Abbey Life	841½p (+21)	
Commercial Union	404½p (+12)	
General Accident	954p (+35)	
Base	813½p (+17)	
GRIC	321½p (+24)	
LRIC & General	301½p (+19)	
London & Man	308½p (+24)	
PWS	202½p (+17)	
Deas	649½p (+32)	
D&S Simpson A	401½p (+19)	
Refuge	467½p (+20)	
Saatchi & Saatchi	481p (+17)	
Eys (Wimbledon)	685p (+25)	
Bent Walker	408½p (+16)	
Grainier	500p (+17)	
FALLS:		
Appletree Hldgs	125p (-15)	
GF Lovell	125p (-18)	
Darwent Holdings	590p (-10)	
Boeing	2807½	

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	9¼%
3-month interbank B*10-8½%	
3-month eligible bills B*10-8½%	
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	9%
Federal Funds	7¼%
3-month Treasury Bills	6.45-6.43%
30-year bonds	100½-100¾%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£ \$1.8175	£ \$1.8177
£ DM3.1243	£ DM1.7192
£ Sfr12.8117	£ Sfr12.8117
£ FF10.5070	£ FF10.5070
£ Yen226.91	£ Yen226.91
£ Index:76.8	£ Index:76.8
ECU 10.864420	SDR 10.750826

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$457.10 pm \$457.60	
close \$457.00-457.50 (225.10-252.00)	
New York:	
Comex \$454.90-455.40	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (July)	pm \$16.05 bid
* Denotes latest trading price	

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

● Market news on Stockwatch yesterday included: Triton Europe (01380) welled up 21p on hopes for the Paris basin, while Sovereign Oil (02376) also rose on speculative interest; Bryant Group (01119) surged 10p on speculation over its China Clay stake while Appletree Holdings (04091) slumped 10p on disappointing interim.

● Recent additions include: Ratners Group 6¼% conv pref 02971; Thorntons 02943; Waterman Partnership Holdings 02986.

"I consider the interests of investors to be paramount"

The following is the text of a personal statement issued yesterday by Mr Peter Clowes:

In the past few days there has been a very considerable amount of Press and media comment concerning Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers Ltd. There has been much rumour interspersed with some facts. I wish to set the record straight.

Since May 23, when the STB first placed a prohibition order on Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers (BCGM), I have devoted 100 per cent of my time to seeking solutions to the present difficulties and I immediately instructed solicitors to assist me in this task. Since May 23 I have been working

night and day with my professional advisers to take positive steps to find practical solutions.

My primary objective is, and remains, to safeguard the interests of investors and their assets. As is known, Cork Gully were appointed special managers in respect of BCGM. Ernst & Whinney were appointed provisional liquidators of Barlow Clowes International (BCI) in Gibraltar at the instigation of James Ferguson Holdings plc (Ferguson).

Currently, today, applications are, I believe, being made in Gibraltar to appoint Messrs Cork Gully as Receivers of BCI with the primary objective that their mandate will be to gather in and safeguard

the assets of investors who invested in Barlow Clowes & Partners overseas business through the agency of BCI. Yesterday of my own free will I asked Cork Gully to take possession immediately of all the documents and records relating to the overseas business. I have undertaken to work closely with Cork Gully with a view to collecting all the assets of the fund for the benefit of investors as quickly as possible and with the minimum cost in order that those funds may be returned to investors as speedily as possible.

Furthermore I have also given to Cork Gully of my own free will a detailed list of all my personal assets and I have further agreed that I place those personal assets

within the control of Mr Michael Jordan of Cork Gully in order that he may be fully aware of my personal situation. Both these actions have been taken without any admission of personal liability on my part. These steps have been taken because I consider the interests of investors to be paramount.

There has been much speculation as to the dissipation of investors' funds. First, so far as BCGM in the United Kingdom is concerned, it is my understanding and belief that the total of those funds in the sum of approximately £51-£52 million is now held in cash by the special managers Cork Gully. The amount due to the investors in BCGM is I believe broadly an

equivalent amount and I understand from Cork Gully that they are using their very best endeavours to distribute these funds to those investors as quickly as possible and with the minimum of cost.

So far as the offshore fund is concerned, I am assisting Cork Gully to collect in the investors' funds as quickly as possible. I totally deny that those funds have in any way been dissipated as suggested in the Press and media.

I repeat once more that my paramount concern is to ensure that the interests of the investors in both the UK and overseas funds are safeguarded to the utmost of my ability.

DTI under fire over Clowes

By Lawrence Lever

Department of Trade and Industry officials yesterday sought to justify the department's decision to grant Barlow Clowes, the crashed investment company, a licence in 1985 — even though it had been trading illegally for more than a year.

But the Department's explanation — that Barlow Clowes was a partnership at the time, and therefore not subject to the Companies Act, which confers tough powers of investigation on the DTI — was given short shrift by lawyers yesterday.

"They can't sit back and say because this was a partnership we can therefore wash our hands of it," Mr David Pine, of Alexander Tatham, the solicitor, said yesterday. "Yesterday *The Times* revealed that the DTI had ignored top-level warnings about Barlow Clowes at least four years ago by a City watchdog, the National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers (Nasdim)."

Moreover, Barlow Clowes had engaged in high-profile advertising, and took in millions of pounds without a securities licence. This was a criminal offence punishable by up to two years' imprisonment.

DTI sources said yesterday that the department had insisted Barlow Clowes become

a limited company before it granted it a licence. Until that time, the department did not have investigatory powers available, since partnerships fall outside the scope of the Companies Act.

However, under the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958, the DTI and the Director of Public Prosecutions both had power to prosecute a securities firm for trading without a licence. These powers were not used.

Moreover, the DTI made no comment on the fact that warnings were ignored, and refused to say why the department had granted annual renewals of the fund management group's licence, or what scrutiny of Barlow Clowes the department had carried out.

If presented with any evidence that the business was not being run properly, they had powers to revoke or refuse a licence. Under the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act, Barlow Clowes would have had to make returns every 12 months and the DTI had a duty to check those returns.

According to evidence presented last month to the High Court by the Securities and Investments Board, Barlow Clowes had been making "seriously inaccurate" returns.

It would appear, however, that the department is conducting its own internal investigation into what went wrong.

Joint liquidators will assist the inquiries

From Dominique Searle, Gibraltar

The Supreme Court in Gibraltar has appointed joint liquidators and joint receivers in a move agreed by all parties in the Barlow Clowes International liquidation.

By appointing Mr Michael Jordan, of Cork Gully, as both receiver and liquidator with Mr Kenneth Robinson and Mr Nigel Hamilton, of Ernst & Whinney, as liquidator and receiver respectively, there is hope among investors of recovering more money.

The move was explained by lawyers as one that would help in co-ordinating information between Gibraltar and Britain

where Cork Gully are dealing with other business affairs of Mr Peter Clowes which are in liquidation.

Yesterday Mr John Perez, who has resigned as managing director of Barlow Clowes International, made clear that he had always believed the arrangements surrounding his company's investment had been perfectly in order.

With BCI staff employed on the accounts until at least next Friday Mr Perez said he feels a moral commitment to do everything he can, and pay the investors fully.

High-flying lifestyle: (above left) Peter Clowes and (from top) the helicopter G-HJET, at Denham Airfield, Bucks, leased by a company of which he is a director; Paddock Brow, his house in Prestbury, near Manchester; and the luxury yacht Boukephalos, known to Costa del Sol locals as "Mr Clowes' boat", which is believed to be heading for the south of France

Investigation spreads to Isle of Man

From Colin Campbell, Isle of Man

The task of unravelling the financial spider's web of the collapsed Barlow Clowes investment group yesterday spread to the Isle of Man.

Manx sources confirmed that they were taking a close interest in Mr Peter Clowes' connections with the island, where he is said to have substantial property assets and which he has frequently visited in a private jet from his Manchester base.

These inquiries are also

likely to include an examination of Mr Clowes' connections with Mr Peter Henwood, a flamboyant international financier who lives on the island and has been seen regularly with Mr Clowes.

Documents obtained by *The Times* show both men as being on the board of Corporate Aviation Services, an Isle of Man company, along with Mr Guy Cramer. This company leases aircraft, including the Lear jet G-PJET and helicopter G-HJET which Mr Clowes uses.

The Barlow Clowes group, in which an estimated 11,000 individuals, mainly British, had entrusted their funds, collapsed earlier this week.

The transfer of substantial amounts to various offshore centres is now under international investigation. Most of the £138 million which had been sent by investors to Barlow Clowes International in Gibraltar is thought to be in other offshore centres.

Most of the funds are

thought to have been transferred to the Channel Islands, although some could have gone to the Isle of Man.

The wider international investigation into Barlow Clowes is likely to fall under the Isle of Man Financial Supervision Commission, which is responsible for monitoring financial and banking institutions on the island.

The commission's officials would try to establish if any funds had been transferred to the Isle of Man.

Clowes: No clients' money is at risk

By John Bell, City Editor

Mr Peter Clowes said last night that none of his clients' money had been used to pay for yachts or executive jets, or used in any of his personal business interests. "I do have an interest in a yacht, but no clients' money was used to buy that. It is a commercial operation and the yacht is on charter," he said in a BBC radio interview.

He revealed that he had agreed to transfer his personal assets, worth up to £25 million, to the special managers appointed to sort out the affairs of his stricken investment company. Much of his personal wealth had arisen from ownership of the shares he received for the sale of his investment and computer companies to James Ferguson, the publicly quoted concern that now owns Barlow Clowes.

"Last year I had net assets of £25 million. It is obviously a very different situation at the moment, and I don't think I could put a figure on it right now," he told an interviewer on the Radio Four programme *The Financial World Tonight*.

"There is a helicopter and jet, which is a business venture operated from Manchester. It is not clients' money. They are leased from a major Swedish finance house. There is no clients' money at risk," he said.

Mr Clowes said that he did not think that there were problems for investors in his British subsidiary. "I understand that all the gilts have been sold and that the cash realized is sufficient to repay all clients. I believe that I should request that at least a partial repayment should be made as soon as possible."

Of the £138 million invested through the Barlow Clowes offshore funds in Gibraltar, Mr Clowes said: "It is a delicate situation, but if it is dealt with carefully, all the money will be repaid."

"The fact that I have agreed to transfer my personal assets to the special managers is a clear demonstration of my earnest intent, one to the clients and two that I have not lined my pockets."

Advertising firms agree on merger

By Carol Ferguson

Two advertising groups, Boase Massini Pollitt and Davidson Pearce Group, have agreed to merge, thereby becoming one of Britain's top five advertising agencies, BMP Davidson Pearce.

To effect the merger, BMP is offering Davidson Pearce shareholders 573 new BMP shares for every 1,000 DPG shares held. At yesterday's closing prices, the offer valued DPG at £33.1 million or 160p a share, compared with the market quotation of 151p, up 15p on the day.

Full acceptance of the offer would result in the issue of approximately 11.85 million new BMP shares, representing some 33.4 per cent of the enlarged issued share capital

US exchanges act to keep out BAT

By Alison Eadie

Three insurance exchanges linked with Farmers Group, the Los Angeles insurance company, have resolved to change the subscription agreement with their policyholders to prevent the transfer of their agreement with Farmers to a takeover predator.

The exchanges, Farmers Insurance Exchange, Fire Insurance Exchange and Truck Insurance Exchange, have consistently opposed the \$4.5 billion (£2.5 billion) bid for Farmers from BAT Industries.

Farmers acts as attorney-in-fact for the exchanges, which represent 11 million policyholders. The exchanges carry the underwriting risk and Farmers manages the business and acts as exclusive managing agent on behalf of policyholders. Farmers does not consolidate the underlying assets and liabilities and does not directly carry the underwriting risk.

The change in the subscription agreements will confirm the exchanges' view that no change of control of the attorneys-in-fact can take place without the consent of the exchanges.

BAT was last night studying the exchanges' move and had no official comment. BAT watchers in the City questioned whether the exchanges had the legal right to change their policyholder subscription agreements.

"I didn't know they had to pay until now," he said. "If they don't change it, I won't stay. It's unacceptable."

When asked how much he would take as chairman, Mr Apel said he didn't know. How much are the council members paid? "That is none of your concern." Maybe not, but it might be for investors thinking of stumping up a £47.50 membership fee.

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Confusion clouds investors' lobby group launch

Hidden costs of fighting City Goliaths

By Joe Joseph

The launch of a new body to champion the cause of small investors against the City's Goliaths has been marred by confusion over how the new lobby group will operate, who will fund it and how much its chairman might benefit from what is planned to be a non-profit-making company.

Anyone who objects to the aims of the Association of Private Investors probably bites the heads off live chickens, too. But the Mae West motto used by Lord St John of Fawsley to toast the launch — "God is love, but get it in writing" — might be advice worth heeding by investors thinking of paying the £47.50 annual subscription.

Lord St John is one of a prestigious, eight-strong advisory council, keen to protect the interests of Britain's 9 million investors. Sir William Rees-Mogg, chairman of the Broadcasting Standards Council and a former editor of *The*

Times, Sir David Napley, the solicitor, and John Biffen MP have also agreed to serve.

But it is understood that most of them had been expecting to thrash out the issues at a private meeting before the association was heralded.

Moreover, they had not been told that *Private Investor*, the quarterly magazine — whose founding editor, Mr Ralph Apel, a former linguist at British Telecom, has installed himself as API chairman — would become the house magazine of the new investors' association.

That would mean that a two-year-old magazine which claims a circulation of 27,000, but sales of only 2,000 — and which, therefore, makes its money from advertising revenue — could find that its circulation soars. The result would be swelling advertising income and a fat mailing list of small investors.

Mr Apel, aged 39, says that if the

council sees a conflict of interest when it meets for the first time later this month, he will try to resolve it.

Equally disconcerting for some of the API's advisory council, the association is offering its members a 10 per cent discount on legal or accountancy services obtained through the API. While the thought is commendable, the API's decision to charge solicitors and accountants £95 plus VAT to join its approved list is unusual at best.

Sir David Napley was taken aback by the disclosure. "I didn't know they had to pay until now," he said. "If they don't change it, I won't stay. It's unacceptable."

Lukman may resign over Opec output quotas row

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

A row about output quotas could lead to the resignation of the president of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Dr Riwann Lukman, the Nigerian oil minister. The latest ministerial meeting of Opec members begins in Vienna today.

Opec is split between the conservative Arab states in the Gulf, which want to slightly increase output in the hope that world demand will rise, and those which want to cut output, so that prices will instantly move up. This group is led by Iran and includes Algeria and Libya.

Dr Lukman is trapped between the two camps, and will open the Opec meeting today with an appeal for unity and a call for unanimous support of the present output and price agreement.

However, Dr Lukman is believed to be facing pressure from within Nigeria itself to back the move to increase output. Nigeria has an urgent need to increase its foreign currency earnings from oil, and because its oil is more



Appealing for unity: Dr Riwann Lukman, president of Opec

readily saleable than that of most other Opec members — its grades are like the North Sea crudes, which are in consistent demand by refiners — it could find ready markets for increased output.

A preliminary draft of his

opening speech is understood to contain a clear indication that unless a full agreement is reached, he will hand over the presidency.

Dr Lukman said yesterday: "There is no reason why we cannot have \$18 a barrel if we

respect our quotas. If we have to cut we will, but I don't think we will have to if all countries respect their quotas."

"The argument will be that the market conditions will support a high level of production. To that extent some people may try to insist on higher production. We intend to examine this to see what is best for the market."

At present Opec has a fixed quota of 15.06 million barrels a day, with Iraq outside the agreement, and total production running at nearer 18.3 million barrels a day. The Gulf states feel that the present market could easily absorb 18.7 million barrels a day of Opec crude and still gradually send the price upwards.

Mr Philip Morgan, an oil analyst at SG Warburg, the stockbroker, said: "There seems little that Opec can do to affect the market. They are now getting a price higher than they were before the last meeting, in May, and demand in the summer is now running at the same level it does in the winter. The market is reasonably firm, with prices showing a very slight upward trend."

Young defends merger policy

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Lord Young of Gifford, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, yesterday hit back at criticisms of government merger policy.

He said that critics, who have been vocal during the Rowntree bid battle, had failed to allow for the fact that merger policy took account, where appropriate, of the market position beyond Britain's borders.

In a speech to the London Chamber of Commerce, Lord Young said: "My concern is your market for your goods or services, whether you are buying or selling, whether the market is local, national or international."

"For some products, the market may be very local, much smaller than the total UK market. Other products have a national market."

"But, often, the relevant market is wider — it may be the whole of Europe, or beyond. In these cases, there is competition from suppliers anywhere and we get the benefit of that competition. So, effective competition in the market is the main test, not some geographical limit."

Lord Young said that critics of merger policy — including Sir Trevor Holdsworth, the newly appointed CBI president, who argued this week that competition policy takes too narrow a view — had not taken on board the message of the DTI's *Blue Book* on mergers policy, published earlier this year.

This statement of the Government's position said that while international factors were taken into account, there was a strong presumption in favour of a Monopolies Commission reference if competition in Britain was likely to be restricted by a merger, by implication, not in the opposite case.

Lord Young said: "Our concern to encourage effective competition within open markets is absolutely consistent with the creation of large, internationally competitive UK companies with a large share of the UK market, as long as there is international competition in that market."

While such mergers would be subject to Monopolies Commission investigations, he added: "If substantial efficiency benefits would be the outcome, then the merger could be cleared, whilst accepting some effect on competition for the time being in the UK market."

COMMENT David Brewerton

A green revolution in store for Asda's image

Going green is not about politics or ecology at Asda Group, but it is about the environment — the shopping environment.

Asda, which was piling it just as high and selling it just as cheap in the North as Tesco was in the South, is changing its image. Out goes the old brown Asda, specializing in tins and packets and in comes pale green Asda, with up to one third of the food shelves taken up with fresh foods.

Not a revolution in retailing, but it is a revolution at Asda, and shows every sign of paying off. Asda untied the unsuccessful merger with MFI late last year, leaving the stores group with its interests in supermarkets and Allied Carpets. Asda is now able to concentrate on its own future, and John Hardman, the managing director, sees it in green rather than brown.

Not only the colours are changing. Mr Hardman, who feels the ghost of Noel Stockdale pacing through his office if he contemplates spending too much on a site, is done with demographics, he says. Instead, he is looking to catch the country's "lifestyle leaders" and entice them through his checkouts. "They are very much attached to our clothing offer," he says.

This year, 15 new stores will open, spreading south into Bexleyheath and

Great Yarmouth. All will be green, and most will be 45,000 square feet. More important, they will push an extra 1 per cent of net margin through to the bottom line. "Gross margins go up on a greenification," says Mr Hardman.

Asda has a reputation in the City as one of the highest margin earners in the food retailing industry, and, therefore, analysts see limited scope for further improvement. But the fat end of the margin is earned on clothing sales, not food sales, and there is still room for solid margin growth and also profits growth from the food "offering".

That alone should push profits ahead from an expected £215 million before tax in the year to the end of April, 1988, to £250 million in the current year. The next year or two will be spent improving the quantity and quality of the Asda "profits offering", wiping from the excitable mind of Mr Hardman the memories of four years ago when Asda was careering towards the cliff edge, unbeknown to the City.

Beyond the current year, however, Asda will have to think once again about its direction outside of a food industry which must, sooner or later, reach saturation. But, anxious to avoid another disastrous merger, that one is, for the moment being put on ice.

Bricom buyout agreed at £359m

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

British & Commonwealth Holdings has agreed the long-awaited management buyout of Bricom, its commercial services subsidiary, in a deal worth £359 million — the second-largest buyout ever accomplished in Britain.

The complex deal, which is not expected to be completed before August, will eliminate B&C's central borrowings and leave it in a strong position to begin a programme of acquisitions in the financial services sector. It comes after other disposals of non-financial services earlier this year by B&C, worth £66 million.

Mr Peter Goldie, chief executive of B&C, said that the company had obtained a good

price for Bricom. It was 77 per cent above net asset value and represents an exit p/e of 19.6 per cent.

B&C is ploughing £11 million back into the company to retain a 20 per cent holding. Bricom's senior managers and 1,000 selected employees have done particularly well, securing a 15 per cent stake in the company's ordinary share capital at a cost of £1 million.

The rest of the £39 million of ordinary and preference shares has been taken up by institutional investors, including Baring Capital Investors, part of Baring Brothers merchant bank, which arranged the buyout. There is also £286 million of senior debt in-

volvement, underwritten by Standard Chartered Bank.

Mr Julian Lee, head of Bricom, said that there was likely to be considerable reshaping of the company in the near future — including some disposals — to prepare it for a full stock market flotation in two to three years.

B&C's shares fell 5p to 268p as the company advised that until they were reinvested, the sale proceeds would not compensate for the loss of income from Bricom. Mr Goldie said reinvestment would be swift.

There would be further investment in B&C's fledgling banking operation, Abaco, and in its property and development capital activ-

ities. "We are also looking at purchases both in Britain and abroad," he added.

A team of B&C analysts is going to the US in two weeks to explore acquisition possibilities there. B&C was also looking closely at European financial services markets.

He said that B&C was looking carefully at Singer & Friedlander, the small merchant bank in which it has recently built up a 10.4 per cent stake. He would not comment on whether there were plans to buy it.

There was also likely to be an auction among several interested parties to buy MW Marshall, B&C's money broking subsidiary.

Big sales chance for Rolls-Royce

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine maker, has struck deals with Europe's Airbus Industrie and America's McDonnell Douglas, which open up potential for extensive new engine sales for the next generation of big jetliners. The Derby-based manufacturer is also talking to Boeing.

A memorandum of understanding has been signed with

Philips shake-up threatens UK jobs

By Our Industrial Staff

Philips, the Dutch electronics group, has given warning that jobs in Britain could be threatened, after announcing 900 redundancies at its headquarters in Eindhoven.

Philips employs 20,000 in Britain at 20 sites, including Croydon, Crawley and Redhill in the South, Blackburn, Burnley and Washington in the North, and Glasgow.

A Philips spokesman said the "radical restructuring" was starting in Eindhoven but would happen everywhere. He said: "It is possible there could be redundancies in Britain."

He said the competitive struggle had put pressure on trading profit, making cost reductions necessary.

Court call for Bond on AGM 'hijack'

From Richard Battley, Sydney

Mr Alan Bond and representatives of the State Government Insurance Commission (SGIC) of Western Australia will be subpoenaed to appear before the WA Supreme Court over the alleged "hijacking" of Bell Resources' annual meeting.

Solicitors for seven Bell Resources shareholders associated with Sir Ron Brierty and Mr Kerry Packer — who are officially still bidding Aus\$1.03 billion (£458 million) for the company — told the court they would challenge "key aspects" of the inquiry by the National Companies and

Securities Commission, Australia's corporate watchdog, into the sale of Bell Group shares to Mr Bond and the SGIC.

The inquiry's "tentative" finding was that there "might have been some understanding" between Mr Bond's company, Bond Corporation, and the SGIC over the future control of Bell Group, the parent of Bell Resources.

The seven shareholders, who claim to have held the true annual meeting of Bell Resources on May 30, told the court that the reason Bell Resources postponed by 24

hours the meeting that the company's chairman, Mr Robert Holmes a Court, said was the genuine meeting "could well be evidence of the carrying into effect of the understanding referred to by the NCSC."

If so, they said, the May 31 meeting was invalid. They intended to subpoena as many witnesses as necessary — including Mr Bond, Mr Wyvern Rees, the SGIC chairman, and Mr Holmes a Court — to prove their suspicion was correct.

Bell Resources' counsel denied the allegation, saying the

NCSC report made no mention of Bell Resources, nor did it suggest that Bell Group or Mr Holmes a Court was part of any "understanding" between Bond Corporation and the SGIC.

The case was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

Meanwhile, the Federal Court here quashed an inquiry by the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal (ABT) into whether Mr Bond was a "fit and proper" person to hold a television broadcaster's licence. It ruled the ABT had no authority to hold the inquiry.

Gordon Russell in £9.5m acquisition

By Alexandra Jackson

Gordon Russell, the office furniture group, is to acquire GA Harvey, a fellow manufacturer of office furniture, for £9.5 million.

The purchase will be funded by the issue of 3.6 million new shares in Gordon Russell at 26p to Krug International, the vendor, by way of a placing.

Gordon Russell shareholders will have the opportunity to acquire the new shares on the basis of 37 new shares for every 100 ordinary shares.

Harvey made £1.1 million

in pretax profits in the year to April 2 on sales of £10.3 million. Exports account for 13 per cent of sales. Harvey's net assets at the last year-end were £3.8 million.

Harvey's products are distributed in Britain through 150 dealers as well as direct to corporate customers.

It manufactures from two factories in the Kent seaside resorts of Margate and Ramsgate, and has a wood-working factory in Woolwich, London. The company has two showrooms, in London and Manchester.

Jarvis Porter in 24% rise to £3m

By Alison Eadie

Jarvis Porter Group, the printer and manufacturer of labels and packaging, made pretax profits in the year to end-February of £3 million, a rise of 24.5 per cent. Turnover rose 35 per cent to £33.7 million and earnings per share gained 22 per cent to 11.7p.

The total dividend was 4p against 3.6p previously.

The labels division, specializing in high-quality labels for the wine and spirit trade, was adversely affected by the switch in customer ordering to more frequent, but lower-volume, orders with short lead

times. New investment in Scotland and Leeds last year will help give a more efficient service this year without substantially increasing overheads, the company said.

Last year's acquisition of RB Macmillan, which makes self-adhesive labels, made a small contribution to profits on a turnover of £3.7 million. Jarvis's existing self-adhesive labelling operations saw substantial growth, and recent investment of £1 million has made the plant "as advanced as any in Europe".

An average loss of materials was put at 1 per cent of throughput. Some dry materials soon lost a proportion of their bulk as they filled the air with dust. The problems were aggravated when the bulk materials were themselves either abrasive or corrosive, as they brought rapid deterioration in the machinery itself.

Cost of spillage clearance came out at an estimated £6.90 a ton, extra maintenance at £4.70 a ton and dealing with special factors £10.70 a ton. The institution's study estimated that, in a £10 million plant handling 1 million tons of bulk material a year, costing £40 a ton, the achievement of zero spillage should yield total savings of £620,000 a year.

Engineers study cost of dust and spillage

Clearing up a £200m problem

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The man with a broom on the shop floor, together with his mechanical equivalents for clearing up dust, mess and spillage, represents a cost to some parts of British industry of at least £200 million a year.

Furthermore, the overall cost to industry of cleaning up is much higher: a report quantifying such costs for the first time, looked only at plants handling bulk materials.

The report comes from the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, the largest of the learned bodies catering for professional engineers. The institution first discovered the high cost of cleaning up when a questionnaire, compiled by its process industries division, attempted to

identify those areas where improvements were most needed in engineering practices associated with the handling, storage, processing and transportation of bulk materials.

The most serious problem turned out to be the generation of dust, mess and spillage.

This led the institution to look at a number of representative plants, from a coal-burning power station and a china clay producer to a flour mill and a fertilizer manufacturer.

The main cause of the cost incurred was cleaning up what seemed at plant level to be small amounts of "annoying" dust, or coping with the mess from poorly designed and managed equipment.

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The prices appearing in this section refer to Thursday's trading

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 76.5 (day's range 76.8).					OTHER STERLING RATES	
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES						
Market rates for June 10						
	Range	Close	1 month	3 months		
New York	1,817.0-1,821.0	1,817.0-1,820.0	0.06-0.06 1/2	0.36-0.37 1/2	Australia (spot)	17.9125-18.0125
Paris	1,211.0-1,221.0	1,219.45-1,219.00	0.12-0.13 3/4	0.63-0.69 1/2	Australia (3m)	2.2500-2.2500
Amsterdam	3,050.0-3,051.0	3,052.5-3,053.0	1/4-1/4	4 3/4-4 3/4	Bahrain (dmt)	0.0845-0.0845
Frankfurt	1,817.0-1,821.0	1,817.0-1,821.0	1/4-1/4	4 3/4-4 3/4	Bahrain (3m)	0.3010-0.3010
Copenhagen	11,857.1-11,858.1	11,858.1-11,858.0	1/4-1/4	1 1/2-1 1/2	Cyprus (pound)	0.082-0.083
Dublin	1,985.1-1,707	1,985.0-1,702	20-10p	85-84p	Finland (mark)	7.3877-7.4277
Geneva	1,817.0-1,821.0	1,817.0-1,821.0	1/4-1/4	4 3/4-4 3/4	France (dmt)	0.082-0.083
Lisbon	2,593.3-2,593.7	2,593.3-2,593.4	45-45 1/2	185-200	Hong Kong (dollar)	14.1875-14.1875
Madrid	20.5-20.5 1/2	20.41-20.50 1/2	1/4-1/4	1/4-1/4	India (rupee)	24.5675-24.5675
Munich	1,817.0-1,821.0	1,817.0-1,821.0	1/4-1/4	4 3/4-4 3/4	Indonesia (Rp)	0.0000-0.0000
Ottawa	11,857.1-11,858.1	11,857.1-11,858.1	1/4-1/4	1 1/2-1 1/2	Malaysia (ringgit)	4.6747-4.6750
Osaka	226.8-227.1	226.8-227.1	1/4-1/4	1/4-1/4	New Zealand (dollar)	2.2500-2.2500
Stockholm	10,857.1-10,858.1	10,857.1-10,858.1	1/4-1/4	1 1/2-1 1/2	Saudi Arabia (r)	0.0000-0.0000
Tokyo	226.8-227.1	226.8-227.1	1/4-1/4	1/4-1/4	S.Africa rand (rand)	0.5051-0.5051
Vienna	1,817.0-1,821.0	1,817.0-1,821.0	1/4-1/4	4 3/4-4 3/4	S.Africa rand (pound)	0.0000-0.0000
Zurich	2,050.0-2,051.0	2,050.0-2,051.0	1/4-1/4	3/4-3/4	S.Africa rand (rand)	0.5051-0.5051

Ireland	1.5570-1.5595	Denmark	6.5310-6.5360	Italy	1277.5-1278.5
Singapore	2.0175-2.0195	W Germany	7.1190-7.1200	Belgium (Cont)	35.31-35.91
Malaysia	2.5735-2.5745	Switzerland	1.4350-1.4360	Hong Kong	7.8095-7.8105
Australia	1.2391-1.2399	Netherlands	1.9295-1.9305	Portugal	140.00-140.50
Canada	1.2185-1.2195	France	5.9030-5.9060	Spain	113.40-113.60
Sweden	5.9960-6.0010	Japan	124.83-124.93	Austria	12.08-12.09

MONEY MARKETS

[illegible]

BULLION: **GOLD**
 1 oz: \$1,450.00
 1/2 oz: \$725.00
 1/4 oz: \$362.50
 1/10 oz: \$145.00
 1/20 oz: \$72.50
 1/40 oz: \$36.25
 1/80 oz: \$18.12
 1/160 oz: \$9.06
 1/320 oz: \$4.53
 1/640 oz: \$2.26
 1/1280 oz: \$1.13
 1/2560 oz: \$0.56
 1/5120 oz: \$0.28
 1/10240 oz: \$0.14
 1/20480 oz: \$0.07
 1/40960 oz: \$0.035
 1/81920 oz: \$0.0175
 1/163840 oz: \$0.00875
 1/327680 oz: \$0.004375
 1/655360 oz: \$0.0021875
 1/1310720 oz: \$0.00109375
 1/2621440 oz: \$0.000546875
 1/5242880 oz: \$0.0002734375
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3month 1245.70 1 year 1245.70
 6month 7.80-7.50 12 month 8.20-8.15

TREASURY BILLS
 Auctions: 2485.50
 Last: 237.867%
 Bid: 237.925%
 Avg rate: 23.0079%
 Next week: 2100m

offered: £100m
 received: 30%
 accepted: 56%
 test wk 28.1267%

Krowczyk: 3-7.130-7.030 (£250-262.50)
 Krowczyk: 3-635.55-686.50 (£250-262.50)
 Waples: 1-7647-476.00 (£250-282.00)
 American Express: 1-4770-476.00 (£250-282.00)
 New Sovereigns: £107.50-108.50 (£50-50.75)
 Old Sovereigns: £107.50-108.50 (£50-50.75)
 Platinum: £581.75 (£139.50)
 Palladium: £129.00 (£20.95)
 Silver: \$7.15-7.17 (\$3.930-\$3.945)

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterling						Previous open interest 28911					
Jun 88	91.37	91.37	91.34	91.35	1030	US Treasury Bond					
Jul 88	90.76	90.76	90.70	90.72	1020	Jun 88	88-08	88-08	88-12	1047	
Aug 88	90.76	90.76	90.70	90.72	1020	Jul 88	88-04	88-04	88-04	1047	
						Aug 88	87-11	87-11	87-11	1047	

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Jun 88	NY	—	—	\$1.27	0	Sep 88	—	105.40	105.50	105.90	105.50	528	0
Sep 88	NY	—	—	\$1.14	0	Dec 88	—	NT	—	—	104.87	528	0

COMMODITIES

ing, would	COCOA	LONDON FOX	G W JOYNSON	LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
				Official prices/volume contracts date

Contract	Start Date	End Date	Commodity	Quantity	Unit	Price	Value	Notes
Jul 300-305	May 390-397	(K) Anne	Cash	1567.0	1570.0	1341.0	1342.0	
Sep 320-325	Jul 1016-1017	Copper Gde A	3 month	1300.0	1320.0	1290.0	1300.0	
Sep 325-330	Sep 1035-1037	Copper Stand	Vol	400.00	400.00	371.00	372.00	388800
Mar 370-377	Vol 3160	Long	NI	5000.00	500.00	73.00	74.00	50000
COFFEE	G W Joyanna	Shir Lay Gde	83425	700.00	710.00	722.00	725.00	
Jul 1140-1135	Mar 1195-1190	Zinc Lay Gde	Vol	1140.00	1135.00	1125.00	1120.00	
Sep 1152-1150	May 1215-1225	Silver Lay Gde	NI	1152.00	1150.00	1125.00	1120.00	
Nov 1140-1150	Jul 1220-1225	Silver Smelt	Vol	1140.00	1150.00	1125.00	1120.00	
	Aluminum		NI	1140.00	1150.00	1125.00	1120.00	


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0		Jl 108.90		My 104.95		Nov 107.15		Dec 108.25		Jan 111.35		Feb 113.85		Mar 116.35		Apr 118.85		May 121.35		Jun 123.85		Jul 126.35		Aug 128.85		Sep 131.35		Oct 133.85		Nov 136.35		Dec 138.85		Jan 141.35		Feb 143.85		Mar 146.35		Apr 148.85		May 151.35		Jun 153.85		Jul 156.35		Aug 158.85		Sep 161.35		Oct 163.85		Nov 166.35		Dec 168.85		Jan 171.35		Feb 173.85		Mar 176.35		Apr 178.85		May 181.35		Jun 183.85		Jul 186.35		Aug 188.85		Sep 191.35		Oct 193.85		Nov 196.35		Dec 198.85		Jan 201.35		Feb 203.85		Mar 206.35		Apr 208.85		May 211.35		Jun 213.85		Jul 216.35		Aug 218.85		Sep 221.35		Oct 223.85		Nov 226.35		Dec 228.85		Jan 231.35		Feb 233.85		Mar 236.35		Apr 238.85		May 241.35		Jun 243.85		Jul 246.35		Aug 248.85		Sep 251.35		Oct 253.85		Nov 256.35		Dec 258.85		Jan 261.35		Feb 263.85		Mar 266.35		Apr 268.85		May 271.35		Jun 273.85		Jul 276.35		Aug 278.85		Sep 281.35		Oct 283.85		Nov 286.35		Dec 288.85		Jan 291.35		Feb 293.85		Mar 296.35		Apr 298.85		May 301.35		Jun 303.85		Jul 306.35		Aug 308.85		Sep 311.35		Oct 313.85		Nov 316.35		Dec 318.85		Jan 321.35		Feb 323.85		Mar 326.35		Apr 328.85		May 331.35		Jun 333.85		Jul 336.35		Aug 338.85		Sep 341.35		Oct 343.85		Nov 346.35		Dec 348.85		Jan 351.35		Feb 353.85		Mar 356.35		Apr 358.85		May 361.35		Jun 363.85		Jul 366.35		Aug 368.85		Sep 371.35		Oct 373.85		Nov 376.35		Dec 378.85		Jan 381.35		Feb 383.85		Mar 386.35		Apr 388.85		May 391.35		Jun 393.85		Jul 396.35		Aug 398.85		Sep 401.35		Oct 403.85		Nov 406.35		Dec 408.85		Jan 411.35		Feb 413.85		Mar 416.35		Apr 418.85		May 421.35		Jun 423.85		Jul 426.35		Aug 428.85		Sep 431.35		Oct 433.85		Nov 436.35		Dec 438.85		Jan 441.35		Feb 443.85		Mar 446.35		Apr 448.85		May 451.35		Jun 453.85		Jul 456.35		Aug 458.85		Sep 461.35		Oct 463.85		Nov 466.35		Dec 468.85		Jan 471.35		Feb 473.85		Mar 476.35		Apr 478.85		May 481.35		Jun 483.85		Jul 486.35		Aug 488.85		Sep 491.35		Oct 493.85		Nov 496.35		Dec 498.85		Jan 501.35		Feb 503.85		Mar 506.35		Apr 508.85		May 511.35		Jun 513.85		Jul 516.35		Aug 518.85		Sep 521.35		Oct 523.85		Nov 526.35		Dec 528.85		Jan 531.35		Feb 533.85		Mar 536.35		Apr 538.85		May 541.35		Jun 543.85		Jul 546.35		Aug 548.85		Sep 551.35		Oct 553.85		Nov 556.35		Dec 558.85		Jan 561.35		Feb 563.85		Mar 566.35		Apr 568.85		May 571.35		Jun 573.85		Jul 576.35		Aug 578.85		Sep 581.35		Oct 583.85		Nov 586.35		Dec 588.85		Jan 591.35		Feb 593.85		Mar 596.35		Apr 598.85		May 601.35		Jun 603.85		Jul 606.35		Aug 608.85		Sep 611.35		Oct 613.85		Nov 616.35		Dec 618.85		Jan 621.35		Feb 623.85		Mar 626.35		Apr 628.85		May 631.35		Jun 633.85		Jul 636.35		Aug 638.85		Sep 641.35		Oct 643.85		Nov 646.35		Dec 648.85		Jan 651.35		Feb 653.85		Mar 656.35		Apr 658.85		May 661.35		Jun 663.85		Jul 666.35		Aug 668.85		Sep 671.35		Oct 673.85		Nov 676.35		Dec 678.85		Jan 681.35		Feb 683.85		Mar 686.35		Apr 688.85		May 691.35		Jun 693.85		Jul 696.35		Aug 698	
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1980	146.4	Oct 171.5-71.0	Jun 188.0-67.5	Aug	—	Scotland (+/-)	N/A	±12.69	119.97
Vol 187	Dec 173.5-73.0		Vol 441	Vol Pig-2 Cattle-0			N/A	-10.90	+2.11
						* Estimated dead carcass weight			

INVESTMENT TRUSTS									
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INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP



FAMILY MONEY/1

Edited by Vivien Goldsmith

Don't be put off the gilts offshore

The solid image of gilts investment has taken a knock with the demise of Barlow Clowes, but investors should not allow legitimate offshore gilt funds to bear the taint.

At first glance these funds appear to have a surprisingly high yield and wide variations in total return — capital and income. Indeed, at the top of the latest table for one-year performance is a fund that has brought investors returns of more than 25 per cent.

A rival fund manager said: "It looks so good you can hardly believe it. It reminds me of the funds started by large insurance companies — the good deals went into the gilts funds and the not so good ones went into the general insurance funds, so the figures looked spectacular."

But David Kidd, the investment adviser of Capital House Sterling Bond Fund, which is

'Very aggressively managed fund'

part of the Capital House arm of the Royal Bank of Scotland, says the spectacular success of the fund, with £1.6 million invested in it — tiny compared with giants such as MIM Britannia Jersey, which has more than £290 million — is due to being in partly paid long-dated gilts at the time of the crash last October.

These rose by 10 per cent, and as the stocks were partly paid, the fund gained from the gearing effect.

"It's a very aggressively managed fund. We are in and out of the market," says Mr Kidd. "We are interested in long-term performance, but there will be good times and bad times."

Mr Kidd, who was involved in designing the fund launched just over a year ago said another reason for its performance was that, unlike the other funds tracked by Jersey stockbrokers Le Masurier, James & Chinn, the Capital fund does not pay dividends.

It is a roll-up fund that reinvests income.

This used to have huge tax advantages but now that capital gains are taxed at the same rate as income there is no reason to prefer capital gains to income — unless you are below the CGT threshold.

But Mr Kidd points out that the need to generate income tied the other funds into high-yielding gilts, which might not be the best value in the market.

The other funds, to a greater or lesser extent, milk the capital value of the fund to pay out an unattractively high income. Simply, there is no other way a legitimate fund can pay out 11 or 12 per cent while gilts are yielding 9 per cent. They pay out an inflated income while admittedly eating into the capital.

Michael Lawrence, the managing director of Cater Allen Gilt, defends the artificially high yields from these funds: "They are mainly bought by those who want income. They have made their peace with the relatives and look upon this as a highly efficient annuity."

"They don't mind the capital being eroded. The danger comes when people are seduced by promises of 'guaranteed' returns. That's just pushing water uphill with a rake."

The Cater Allen Gilt & Futures fund was top of the year-on-year tables at the beginning of the year and now occupies bottom position. "This is a volatile fund," says Mr Lawrence.

These gilt funds operate mostly out of Jersey, which is applying for designated territory status under the Financial Services Act. This will mean that the investor protection laws will be deemed equivalent to those operating on the mainland. The "period of grace" for bringing investor laws into line with British investor protection under the Act has just been extended from July 1 to December 1.

Vivien Goldsmith

OFFSHORE GILT FUNDS

Performance since May 29, 1987, to May 27, 1988

Fund	Net return (%)	Est. yield (%)
Capital House £ Bond Fund	26.47	—
Tyndall Gilt Fund	9.13	8.84
Schroder	8.43	5.48
NatWest Gilt	7.76	10.12
TSB Gilt Fund	7.21	11.21
Germore Cap Stral £ Gilt	3.59	8.70
Brown Stimpney	2.91	9.06
Royal Tsl £ Fixed	2.73	8.15
Govett High Income	-0.20	13.67
Cater Allen Gilt & Futures	-5.45	6.55

Statistics by Le Masurier, James & Chinn — prices offer to offer

Rules for the Rock

The demise of Gibraltar-based Barlow Clowes International, which went into liquidation on Tuesday with a large question mark hanging over its £130 million of investors' funds under management, has stunned the financial services industry on the Rock.

Fund managers fear the liquidation will reflect on the whole of Gibraltar's growing investment community. Gibraltar may be British to the core but it does not share Britain's investor protection laws — although in some areas it has its own — and share dealers based on the Rock are virtually unregulated.

In the early 1980s Gibraltar was hit by scandals involving insurance companies. Signal Life sold more than £4 million in investment bonds to people in Britain before going bust. It was later found that the man behind the company was a convicted American swindler Jack Grassie, who had evaded discovery by the simple device of using his mother's maiden name in preference to his own.

Signal Life was followed by two similar but smaller attempts to exploit Gibraltar's image as a safe investment centre, with the result that today Gibraltar has a properly supervised life assurance industry. The gap — as the

Gibraltar authorities acknowledge — is in the lack of supervision of share-dealers.

One company that has been prominent in the past year in attempting to sell dubious shares to investors in Britain is Griffin Hayhurst, which issues a tip-sheet called *Investorline International Report*.

Griffin Hayhurst is registered in Gibraltar, uses two addresses on the Rock, and even banks with one of Gibraltar's well known banks. But most of its high-pressure telephone calls to investors in Britain are made from an office across the border in Spain.

Last year *The Times* reported on Griffin Hayhurst's fraudulent claims concerning Kiga Industries which, it was said, had the rights to a new method of preserving food. Investors in Britain were told Kiga had sold its first preserving machine to an established food company in Scotland. The claim was false, the Fraud Squad stepped in, and more than £3 million of investors' money was saved.

More recently Griffin Hayhurst has promoted shares in a tiny American company, Kinetic, on the basis of false claims that Kinetic has done a huge deal with sports shoe

manufacturer Reebok.

Another share-dealing company registered in Gibraltar is Timezone. Its offices are in Madrid but its literature says it is British.

One of its recent promotions, a Florida video business called Transworld Network, is facing allegations of fraud brought in the United States by the watchdog Securities and Exchange Commission.

The SEC has also brought fraud charges against another company, Pilgrim Venture, which was allegedly run by the same people as Transworld Network. Its shares were sold to British investors by First Gibraltar Financial Consultants, which operates from Marbella but seems to use its Gibraltar registration to reassure prospective clients, as it displays a silhouette of the Rock on its notepaper.

Two further companies that have generated complaints to the authorities — International Finance & Management, and European Equity Research — really are based in Gibraltar.

EER, like First Gibraltar, sold shares in Pilgrim Venture — a remarkable coincidence given the odds against two independent, broking firms picking the same tiny American stock to recommend to their clients, only to find it is a

target for SEC legal action.

EER has recently changed hands and the new owners are at pains to distance themselves from the former management.

International Finance & Management is headed by London-born Bernard Klavir, who is wanted by Los Angeles police for alleged conspiracy and fraud.

The Gibraltar government is well aware of the problems it faces. New investor protection laws are being drawn up, says the colony's finance and development secretary, Brian Traynor.

He says: "We need to do something about the 'grey area' of financial intermediaries. There is no problem at all involving the banks, where we have modern legislation and supervision. What we have got to do is extend this to financial companies."

"There is no problem, for the most part, with people who have a bricks-and-mortar presence. We can bring pressure to bear on them if we find out what they are doing and we don't like it. But there is very little we can do about fly-by-night operators who have registered here and then gone outside our jurisdiction."

Advising the Gibraltar government on its new laws is a



Rock solid: Sadly, some firms operate from the hinterland

financial sector expert Joe Bautista, who sees the need for urgent steps to protect the colony's reputation.

"The investor protection regulations we have at the moment are not adequate," he says. "There is no doubt about that. The laws we are drafting will create one central government body, which must have powers to monitor companies, the ability to send in inspectors quickly, and to order winding-up action if necessary."

On the credit side, Gibraltar attracts a growing number of perfectly respectable companies, Abbey National has set up a subsidiary that holds a

Gibraltar banking licence. National Westminster Bank has invested in a direct computer link to the UK, so banking with NatWest in Gibraltar can be virtually as efficient as banking in London.

Even Spanish banks such as the Banco de Bilbao and Banco Central are now well established on the Rock.

The government aims to have its new investor protection laws in force by next year. But until then the only safe policy is to deal with the firms you know — preferably those with parent companies in Britain.

Tony Hetherington

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FAMILY MONEY/3

Pitfalls in expat haven

If your vision of expatriate life in Spain is one long round of golf and cocktails, you are leaving something vital out, writes *Pauline Skypala*. There are the hours spent poring over incomprehensible forms vital to your being granted a residence permit, pitting your wits against the complicated taxation system, or just battling to get a telephone installed.

Spain is renowned for the labyrinthine complexities of its bureaucracy — hence the existence of professional form-fillers, who know which ones you need for all eventualities, where to find them, and how to fill them out.

One of the first rules of survival in Spain is to hoard all your official pieces of paper — they will make all the difference between being allowed to take money out of the country and being stopped, for example.

Then there is the worry of deciding whom to trust with the capital sum you need to invest for an income to supplement your pension, or even provide one if you are a self-employed person who always relied on the sale of the business to provide the ready cash for retirement — not to mention the extraordinary

mess that some people manage to get into over property purchase.

The Spanish inheritance tax implications of owning property are enough to have you reaching for another gin and tonic, or the first flight back to the UK. The top rate of 81 per cent makes the UK's 40 per cent look decidedly generous.

The majority of expatriates probably live in blissful ignorance of their tax liabilities — or assume they have none, in the erroneous belief that Spain is some sort of tax haven. It never has been, although inefficient administration used to allow tax evasion on a huge scale. Since the Spanish equivalent of VAT was introduced when Spain joined the European Community in 1986, the Spanish taxmen have uncovered 400,000 taxpayers who had previously managed to escape its notice.

In general then, you do not leave your financial problems at home with the bad weather when you leave the UK. If you are still in the planning stages of retiring to Spain, Spanish tax is probably the least of your worries.

Much more immediate is making sure your UK tax position is not adversely af-

ected, particularly from the point of view of Capital Gains Tax if you are selling a business, or even just your UK property.

Take professional advice before you make any irrevocable decisions — mistakes can be expensive. And you will find advice harder to come by once you get out to Spain.

This was shown by the comments of visitors to the International Money Show in Marbella. The sources of reliable advice on the spot were lamentably few they said, although more and more

Property market totally different

financial advice businesses are setting up in Gibraltar, Spain's nearest tax haven.

Nobody wants to hand money over to a crook, even if it was earned in the first place by less than legitimate means. Security is a number one priority, especially as the most sensible place to invest for an income is often offshore.

Investing for an income is a major concern for the expatriates living on the Spanish *costas*. As the majority are retired rather than working,

that should not come as a huge surprise.

For many, this is the first time in their lives that they have had a large capital sum to invest, realized from the sale of a business or a UK property — and they just do not know where to turn for advice. In particular, they need advice pertinent to their own circumstances, taking into account their tax position, their plans and other factors such as the strength of the peseta against other currencies.

Offshore gilt funds were certainly doing a roaring trade at the show, and one group intending to launch a fund in the autumn came away from the show with the firm intention of doing it as soon as reasonably possible. The demand for a secure source of high income is inexhaustible.

The most attractive-looking gilt funds are those with the highest yield, but there is a catch with these — they can pay such a high level of income only at the expense of the capital invested.

"The gilt fund managers who go for the highest yield projections inevitably have either to dividend-wash or to go for high coupon stocks well over par," says Derek Halth-

waite, of Jersey stockbrokers Le Masurier, James & Chinn.

"There are people who require a high tax-free income irrespective of capital damage, and in that situation you can make a case for these high-yield funds. But I prefer to go for the funds with more modest yield projections."

One thing expatriates quickly learn is that the property market in Spain bears no resemblance to the British one. Competition between developers is fierce, and marketing costs are high. Who ultimately pays these? The buyer, of course.

Mark-ups of 20 per cent on the market value of property are not unusual. And with so much new property flooding the market, the resale market is practically non-existent.

So do not buy in the expectation of quick profits, or even treat the cost as an investment. If you have to sell soon after buying, you are unlikely to recoup your initial investment. Nobody will pay that price for a second hand home if a new one is available for the same money.

The converse of that is that if you are prepared to forgo a newly built property, you could well find a bargain in the resale market.

While the rise in bank base rate to 8 per cent caused homeowners to worry about rising mortgages, 750,000 households were rejoicing at an unexpected windfall.

The Abbey National Building Society is cutting the mortgage rate for home loans of £60,000 and above. The cut from 9.75 per cent to 9.25 per cent will apply to 5 per cent of Abbey's existing 1.5 million mortgages from July 1, and new borrowers will get the reduced rate immediately.

For an Abbey borrower with a £60,000 endowment mortgage, the reduction means a £21.37 cut in monthly payments from £426.56 to £404.69. The savings on a £100,000 mortgage are £38.80.

The Abbey is following other building societies in their efforts to regain their share of the cream of the mortgage market, which has been plundered by the banks.

It was just five years ago that building societies ceased charging those who wanted larger loans a higher rate of interest as they saw the banks targeting their most profitable customers — after all, it costs the same to process a mortgage of £15,000 as it does one of £150,000, and it is probably less risky.

The Abbey will lend up to 95 per cent of the value of the property up to £100,000 and up to 90 per cent on more than £100,000. Unlike the Halifax, which reduced the cost of loans of more than £60,000 in

Abbey's loans reverse the trend

the middle of last month from 9.8 to 9.5 per cent, the Abbey will extend the new lower rate to existing customers.

"We thought it was important to treat everyone the same," said Stuart Gowan, Abbey's information officer.

The Abbey is following a line taken by other building societies. For instance, the Woolwich sets mortgages of more than £60,000 at 9.25 per cent — a guaranteed 0.35 percentage points below standard rate for five years. Leeds Permanent mortgages of more than £50,000 are reduced from a standard rate of 9.8 to 9.4 per cent, and at the Britannia Building Society larger loans are at 9.45 per cent, guaranteed to stay 0.3 percentage points below the standard rate for two years.

The Scarborough Building Society has a mortgage and home insurance package for mortgages of more than £40,000. Folio mortgages cost 9.2 per cent and involve taking out a Legal & General endowment policy. The funds come from the Dutch bank, Algemene Bank Nederland.

Buildings insurance is £1.35 per £1,000 of cover and there is competitive contents insurance as well.

● A new way for elderly homeowners to release the capital value of their property has been launched by the Walthamstow Building Society.

The new roll-up loan allows borrowers to take up to 40 per cent of the value of their home in cash. They do not have to pay back any of the capital or interest until the debt reaches 60 per cent of the value of the property. Then just interest payments become due, unless further revaluation of the property proves it has increased in value to cover at least 60 per cent of the debt.

The Yorkshire Building Society is trying to develop a roll-up mortgage along the same lines but it wants to insure the scheme so that there is no question of having to make repayments at all.

If a loan had been taken out in 1970 worth 30 per cent of the value of a house, the debt would have fallen to 27 per cent of the value of the property by 1987.

But suppose house prices rise by just 5 per cent and mortgages average 11 per cent — then a 30 per cent loan would climb to 60 per cent of the value of the property in 12 years and 120 per cent in 25 years. With no rises in house prices at all, the debt would climb to 60 per cent of the value in just six years.

VG

The catch in your car cover

Most people who suffer a theft from their car will discover the glaring gaps in their insurance cover.

Even motorists who believed they were fully covered by comprehensive car insurance will discover that many items regularly carried on journeys will not be replaced because some insurance companies restrict claims to £50.

If a car window is broken during the theft, it will normally be replaced without any effect on the no-claims bonus. However, a claim for car contents will jeopardize the no-claims bonus unless you have bonus protection.

So if you have a break-in, the solution is to claim for broken windows on the car policy but to look to the all-risks section of your home contents policy to cover the stolen items.

General Accident, Britain's largest vehicle insurer, limits car contents claims to £50. For a driver with a camera and the usual photographic extras, stereo tapes and perhaps a coat and pair of shoes, the sum goes nowhere near to replacing the theft. A weekend's shopping can easily be worth more than £50.

Many other companies — such as Commercial Union, Eagle Star, Legal & General, London & Edinburgh, Minster and Norwich Union — have a car contents ceiling of £100, which is still well below the real value of the contents that should be insured.

Even within these levels, there may be restrictions. London & Edinburgh, whose policies are sold through insurance brokers, limit the maximum cover for "audio communication equipment" to £250, even though it is part of

the vehicle's "declared" value. The company will increase the cover for such "permanent" extras to £500 for an extra £8 premium.

The basic premise is that the insurance company will cover the declared value of the car, including its non-portable extras such as the radio and stereo cassette, plus a limited amount described as "personal effects", such as a rug, a raincoat and a briefcase.

If additional permanent features, such as a car telephone, are added later, inform the company, which will usually note it on the policy without an additional premium.

The policies generally exclude jewellery and furs, as well as money and securities. Goods or samples carried in connection with a trade or profession will also not be covered.

The way to cover car contents effectively is twofold. First, all additions to the vehicle should be noted on the policy as part of the overall declared value. Secondly, any likely car contents should be included in the house policy. This means increasing the level of insurance for the house contents and ensuring the section that permits goods to be taken away from the premises is raised to the appropriate level.

If you suffer a car theft, claim on the home contents policy. Although this insurance is dearer than car cover — often £4.50 per £100 insured in London and £1 to £1.50 in non-Metropolitan areas — it does mean that you are protected and, in the event of a claim, your no-claims bonus is not lost.

Conal Gregory

Maude rejects new credit card curbs

Greater competition in the credit card market was welcomed this week by Francis Maude, Junior Trade and Industry Minister.

Mr Maude told a London conference that it would be wrong to impose restrictions on the availability of credit to protect a small proportion of borrowers who overextended themselves. He said consumers should be as careful in shopping around for credit as they are for their weekly groceries. In the past major lenders had been able to charge high interest rates because people had not been prepared to seek out the best deal, he said.

"But," he said, "not before time, there are encouraging signs that this is changing and that competition on interest rates is starting to become a reality."

The big two credit cards in the UK — Access and Visa — both have annual percentage rates of about 23 but Mr Maude said he welcomed the decisions of financial services group Save & Prosper and Chase Manhattan Bank to offer cards at lower rates of about 17 per cent.

"I understand that in the near future major building societies may also follow suit," he added.

A credit card chief executive told delegates that borrowers are able to understand the implications of taking credit and do not need to be protected from themselves.

"There are large numbers of people whose standards of living have been improved through the provision of credit, people who have no difficulty in managing the credit they choose to take," said Peter Ellwood, of Barclaycard.

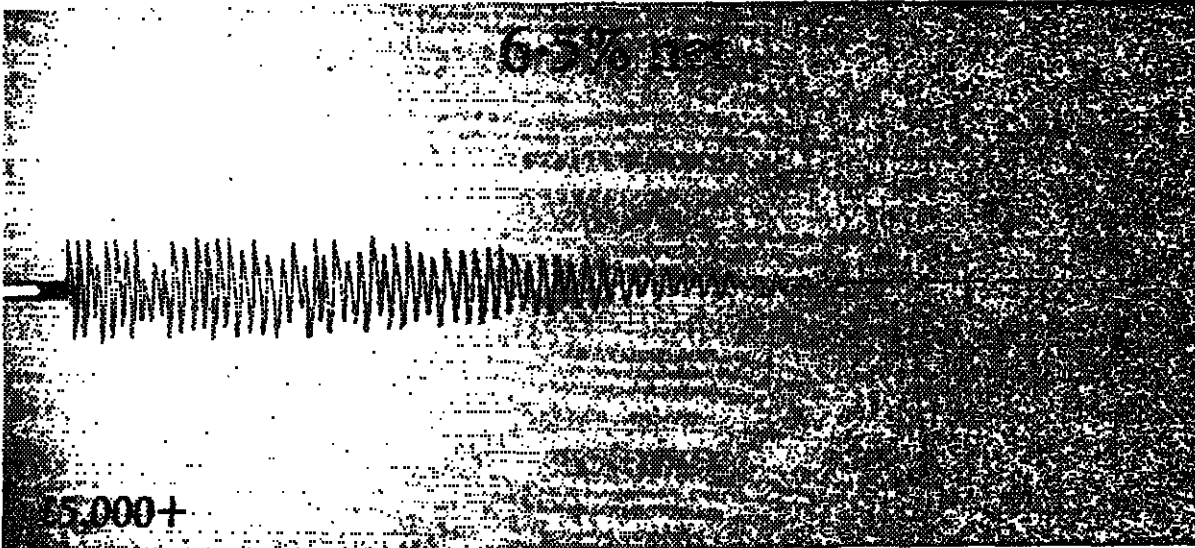
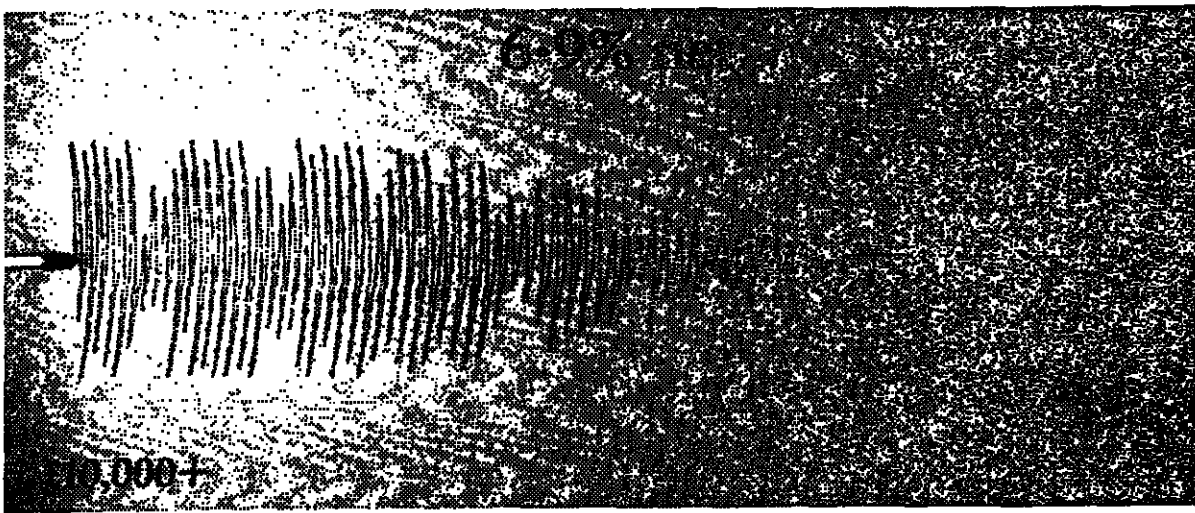
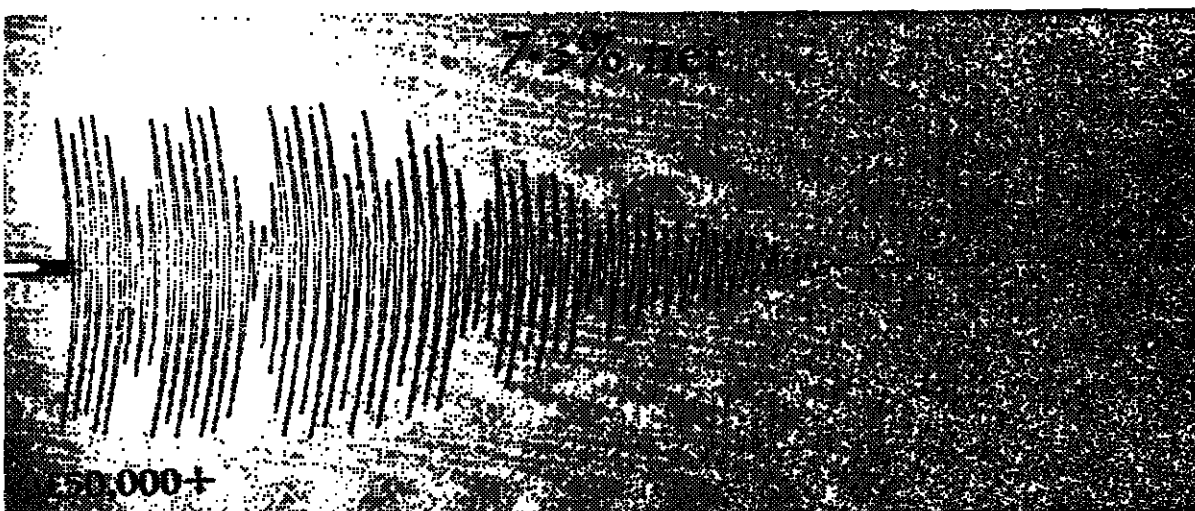
He told the conference, organized by the Money Management Council and Lovell White Durrant, a City law firm, that such people were the vast majority of Britain's 20 million credit card holders. However, he acknowledged that issuers have a duty not to give cards and set credit limits in an irresponsible fashion. Failure to assess the suitability of an applicant and set an appropriate credit limit is a disservice to the longer-term interests of the card issuer and the applicant, he said.

Credit card issuers maintain that only about 1 per cent of customers run into repayment problems. About 45 per cent of cardholders repay in full every month and therefore incur no interest payments. Of the remainder, the average interest actually paid is around 17 per cent.

The card issuers operate scoring systems to ascertain creditworthiness, taking into account the employment record, stability of the home address, bank references and whether the applicant holds any other form of credit.

Rosemary Unsworth
Retail Affairs Correspondent

"When Lloyds Bank upped the interest on savings, the effect was felt as far away as my building society."



Like many people, you may be interested to hear that Lloyds Bank now offers higher interest on savings.

The kind of interest normally associated with building societies.

To get these high rates, you need to invest your money in a Lloyds Bank Investment Account.

It's a savings account that works in tiers. For instance, a deposit of £5,000 or more gives 6.5% net.

While £10,000 plus will haul you in 6.9% net.

Finally, £50,000 will get you the top rate of interest of 7.3% net.

Alternatively, with £50,000 or more you could opt for the unique three month term Bond option.

This will earn you a massive 9.0% gross (no tax deducted).

So how will all this good news for savers affect the building societies?

Well, they'll probably be shattered.

To: Mark Jones, Lloyds Bank Plc, FREEPOST, London SE1 2YZ.

I enclose a cheque for £_____ payable to Lloyds Bank Plc, to open an Investment Account at _____ Branch. I understand that the minimum initial investment is £5,000 and that interest rates may vary.

Branch Address: _____

(Tick box below if Bond option required)

☐ I wish to open the account under the Bond option scheme (minimum £50,000). I understand that the amount will be invested for a fixed term of three months from the date of deposit, and converted at maturity and each succeeding anniversary for further fixed terms of three months until you receive notice of repayment in writing at least seven days before maturity.

Please send a brochure containing full information and a detailed application form for me, so to complete and return to my branch.

Full name(s) Mr/Ms/Mrs _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Date: _____

Signature(s) _____ T2



THE THOROUGHbred BANK.

Interest payable annually. Interest rates may vary. Withdrawal as 3 months notice or immediately with a charge of 50p per £100 withdrawn for each month's notice not given. No interest rates are quoted nor of liability to basic rate Income Tax. Lloyds Bank Plc is a member of IMRO.

FAMILY MONEY/5

Higher Lloyds charges

Lloyds Bank has raised the charges it imposes for processing deposits and withdrawals on current accounts that are overdrawn.

The bank now charges 30p, up from 25p, for every debit or credit once an account goes into the red. The monthly fee for being in the red stays at £1.

Unlike its main high street rivals, Lloyds calculates charges every month, instead of every quarter. This means that for the person who goes into overdraft for only a few days every quarter, Lloyds will probably work out cheaper than the other banks, which charge for a whole quarter even if the account is overdrawn for just a few days.

The increase in charges at Lloyds follows rises at the Midland in March and the TSB in April.

Midland now charges 30p for standing orders and cheques and 27p for automatic teller machine withdrawals and direct debits. There is a quarterly charge of £3 for being in the red.

TSB charges 29p per debit and a quarterly fee of £3. The National Westminster charges 28p for debits and £3 quarterly and Barclays 29p and £3.

A little way off the high street, the Co-op Bank charges 36p for credits and debits while the soon-to-be-privatized National Girobank charges 85p for debits. But Girobank calculates charges on a daily basis, rather than monthly or quarterly, and it says this means charges over a period will probably be less than at the other banks.

Neither the Abbey National Building Society nor the Nationwide Anglia charges for debits or credits while customers are overdrawn on their current accounts.

The overdraft charges are higher than the banks' but research by the magazine *Building Society Choice* earlier this year, using a "typical" couple periodically going into overdraft, showed they would make money on the building society account but would be paying up to £80 a year in charges at the high street banks.

Maria Scott

Unexpected tax problems can arise when businesses change hands. WALTER SINCLAIR, who has co-written a book for guidance, offers some advice.

Valuable reliefs are available against Capital Gains Tax and Inheritance Tax, the two main taxes involved when you pass on your business. The reliefs are even better after the 1988 Budget, but the taxpayer may still take more than his share unless you follow the rules.

Capital Gains Tax applies whether you sell or give away your business. However, a gift election may be made in writing to your tax inspector, signed by yourself and the recipient of every gift. The result is that any capital gains are "held over" until the recipients sell.

If you keep your business until you die, no Capital Gains Tax applies. However, ultimately an Inheritance Tax liability is likely.

Capital Gains Tax is now charged at income tax rates - 25 and 40 per cent. However, business retirement relief may be available. Broadly, you qualify if you have reached 60 and dispose of your business by gift or sale. You also obtain the relief on the disposal of part of your business.

The maximum is £125,000, subject to the rules. If the business is given, not sold, retirement relief is used up first before gifts relief is applied.

On April 6 further relief became available. The slice of total gains between £125,000 and £500,000 is halved before tax is charged. Thus, if you are a 40 per cent taxpayer aged 60 and sell your business making a gain of £425,000, the first £125,000 is tax-free and you pay 40 per cent on £150,000 - that is, £60,000 - assuming you have already used your £50,000 annual exemption.

The relief applies only to gains on the "chargeable business assets" of your business. These include assets used for your trade and goodwill but not investments or trading stock, debtors and cash.

You need not retire to obtain the relief. However, if you retire younger than 60 for health reasons, you will qualify. A medical certificate is generally needed, stating that you are likely to remain incapable of performing your previous work.

Retirement relief covers

How to keep the business in the family

If you do nothing, your entire business interest will ultimately come within the Inheritance Tax net. If you leave the business assets to your spouse, no Inheritance Tax would normally be payable at that stage, but the tax will bite when he or she dies.

However, much eventual tax can be saved if you give your business or company shares to your family at an earlier stage.

Valuable business relief applies for Inheritance Tax purposes. This covers gifts during your lifetime and business property passing on death.

Business property includes a business or part of a business, certain shareholdings as noted below, and land, buildings, plant and machinery used in your partnership or in a company that you control. Shares in investment companies and land or share-dealing companies do not generally qualify.

You must have owned the business property, or property that directly replaced it, for at least two years before the gift. The relief is given by reducing the value of the assets for Inheritance Tax purposes as follows:

- The whole or part of a business, 50 per cent
- Company shares valued on a control basis, 50 per cent
- Holdings of more than 25 per cent in an unquoted trading company, 50 per cent
- Property transferred by you that is used in a trade by a company controlled by you or your partnership, 30 per cent
- Shareholdings of 25 per cent and less in an unquoted trading company.

Business property relief is available against any "potentially exempt transfers" (PETs) that fall into charge after the donor's death within seven years. However, the relief is lost if the recipient disposes of the property before the donor's death. Similarly, the property must remain "relevant business property" during the period.

To avoid losing the relief, it is permissible to replace the original gifted business property with other qualifying assets within one year. The relief is proportionally reduced if the conditions are satisfied for only part of the property.

The author is a tax partner in *Kiddies, chartered accountants, and joint author of the Ash & Dunbar Business and Law Guide (Longman, £14.25), on sale from Monday*



must have owned your business for at least 10 years. Similarly, you need to have worked as a full-time working director of your family company for 10 years. Otherwise, you obtain 10 per cent of the full relief for every year that the appropriate condition has been satisfied.

If your spouse also complies with the requirements, you are both eligible for the relief. Thus you have a maximum of £250,000 qualifying for full Capital Gains Tax relief, with £750,000 attracting 50 per cent relief.

Simple planning can maximize the relief. For example,

with some cash and keeping the company controlled by your family.

Subject to Inland Revenue approval, selling back your shares will be subject to Capital Gains Tax. Otherwise, it would be taxed as a distribution, much in the same way as a dividend. Detailed professional advice is essential. For one thing, the company must be permitted by its articles of association to buy back its own shares.

Subject to the normal rules, provided your gain on selling your shares back to the company is chargeable to Capital Gains Tax, retirement relief will be available against it.

'Stockwatcher' winner

Colin McLean, right, knows what he wants to do with the £2,000 worth of Equitable Life unit trusts he has won in *The Times Stockwatcher* competition.

Mr McLean's first child, a son, was born two weeks ago, and he says: "I think I will be registering the unit trusts in his name."

He expects to select trusts that aim for long-term capital growth.

Mr McLean, a reinsurance broker, has had a portfolio of shares and unit trusts for about 15 years.

The portfolio is managed by a stockbroker but Mr McLean says he and his wife Alison monitor the investments closely.



THE TIMES

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Queen's Bench Division

Law Report June 11 1988

Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Arbitration documents can be disclosed in litigation

Shearson Lehman Brothers Inc and Others v MacLaine Watson & Co Ltd and Others (No 3) [Before Mr Justice Webster [Judgment June 9]]

There was no policy reason for a court to hold that documents produced in the course of a private arbitration should not be disclosed in subsequent public litigation to a party who was not a party to the arbitration.

Mr Justice Webster so held in the Commercial Court, after hearing a commercial summons in open court, on granting the plaintiff's application for disclosure of the pleadings in the arbitration, documents produced by way of evidence, the transcript of the evidence given and the award.

Mr Ian Glick, QC, for the plaintiffs, Mr Richard Aikens, QC and Mr Adrian Hughes for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE WEBSTER said on May 12, 1988 the plaintiffs issued a summons against the defendants in which they applied for an order that the defendants disclose to the plaintiffs all the documents in their custody, power and possession relating to the arbitration proceedings.

The documents which were in issue were the pleadings in the

arbitration, any documents produced by way of evidence in the course of the arbitration, the transcript of the evidence given and the award.

There was no dispute as to the relevance to the instant action of the documents listed and Mr Aikens accepted that there could be no argument that there was legal professional privilege as any such protection was lost once the documents were disclosed in the arbitration.

The question was whether the court should as a matter of policy hold that the documents produced in the course of a private arbitration be disclosed in subsequent public litigation in the absence of consent. There was no authority directly in point.

Mr Aikens relied on *Distillers Co (Biochemicals) Ltd v Times Newspapers Ltd* [1975] QB 669, *Ridgway v Times Book Mills Ltd* [1977] QB 881, *Home Office v Harman* [1983] 1 AC 280 and *Crest Homes plc v Marks* [1987] AC 829.

In all those cases the document or information was held to be protected as the disclosure had taken place during the process of discovery or as a result of an *Anson* Pillar order.

The clear reasoning in those decisions was that it would be

contrary to the interests of justice if parties were discouraged from making a full and frank disclosure because of an apprehension that the documents might be used by parties who were not parties to the litigation in question.

Mr Aikens submitted that the same principle should be applied so as to protect the privacy and confidentiality of an arbitration. However, in his Lordship's view the considerations were very different.

Discovery was a process of involuntary disclosure. Documents produced in the course of an arbitration were given voluntarily. His Lordship could see no significant risk that parties to an arbitration would be inhibited by the apprehension of possible subsequent use by other parties in subsequent litigation.

In coming to that conclusion his Lordship took into account the fact that the courts would not wish to do anything to cause foreign litigants to fear using English arbitration proceedings.

All discovery involved an invasion of privacy. Arbitration had no special privacy or confidentiality which entitled parties to the protection Mr Aikens sought to assert.

Solicitors: Simmons & Simmons; Allen & Overly.

Simpson and Others v Simpson and Another [Before Mr Justice Morritt [Judgment May 27]]

A presumption of undue influence might arise, even though the parties were husband and wife, in particular circumstances of dependency coupled with mutual trust. Mr Justice Morritt held in the Chancery Division.

His Lordship, having found that in any event certain transactions and transfers purported to have been effected by Professor Cedric Keith Simpson shortly before his death were made at a time when he lacked sufficient mental capacity to carry them out, went on, in case he was wrong on that point, to consider undue influence and reject a submission that no such presumption could ever arise between husband and wife.

The plaintiffs were the professor's three children by his first marriage. The first defendant was his third wife, Dr Janet Simpson. The second defendant, Mr Quinton, the professor's solicitor, took no part in the action save to give evidence.

Mr Roger Cooke for the plaintiffs; Mr Richard de Lacy and Miss Anne Wakefield for Dr Simpson.

JUSTICE MORRITT said that the action concerned the validity and effect of certain

dispositions which Professor Simpson, eminent professor at Guy's Medical Hospital, had made between April 20 and May 11, 1985. He had died on July 21, 1985 aged 78 as a consequence of a malignant brain tumour, symptoms of which first appeared in December 1984.

In contemplation of his third marriage, the professor made his last will on June 2, 1982, by which, after various legacies, he left his residuary estate to pay the income to his wife for life and subject thereto, as to income and capital, in equal shares if more than one for such of the plaintiffs as should survive him and Dr Simpson with a substitution in favour of the children of such of the plaintiffs as did not so survive.

The professor underwent an operation on March 11, 1985 followed by a course of radiotherapy, first as an in-patient and after March 22 as an out-patient. From that date until May 11, except for a brief period between April 18 and 20, he was dependent for all his needs on his wife.

Evidence showed that he was most concerned not to be sent back to hospital and that he depended on her willingness and ability to keep him at home.

The transactions of which the plaintiffs complained comprised a letter dated April 21 asking Mr Quinton to arrange that half the proceeds of the professor's house, Dancer's End, go to Dr Simpson, transfers dated April 20, April 29, May 1 and May 8 into joint names of the professor and Dr Simpson of various bank and building society accounts and of holdings of stocks and shares.

Having considered all the evidence, his Lordship concluded that the plaintiffs had established on the balance of probabilities that the professor lacked sufficient mental capacity to carry out any of the transactions on or after April 29.

On that finding, the question of undue influence did not arise, but in case his Lordship's conclusion was wrong, he would deal with that issue also.

It was well established that the marital relationship which commonly gave rise to the greatest degree of mutual trust and confidence did not as such give rise to any presumption of undue influence: see *Howe v Bishop* [1909] 2 KB 390 402 per Lord Justice Farwell.

But it was equally well established that if actual undue influence was proved transactions between spouses could be set aside in the same way as between other persons: see *Bank of Montreal v Stuart* [1911] AC 120.

Mr Cooke submitted that particular circumstances of dependency coupled with mutual trust and confidence might give rise to a duty to protect or to actual or potential dominance such that a presumption

of undue influence might arise even though the parties were husband and wife: see *In re Brocklehurst* [1978] Ch 141 and *Goldsworthy v Brickell* [1987] Ch 378.

By contrast Mr De Lacy contended that no presumption could ever arise, so that nothing short of pleading and proof of actual undue influence would suffice.

The consequence, if that were right, would be evident from this case. As Dr Simpson had never vouchsafed any description or explanation of what had occurred, the plaintiffs had no material on which to make any allegation of actual undue influence.

His Lordship preferred Mr Cooke's submission. His Lordship referred also to *Roberts v Brown and Beattie* [1924] NZLR 651, to *In re Craig* [1971] Ch 141 and to *National Westminster Bank v Morgan* [1985] AC 786.

The donor's own likely feelings and intentions, as a spouse of the donee, and the extent to which the transactions were disadvantageous to the spouse donor had to be considered.

For the plaintiffs it was contended that undue influence was to be presumed from the professor's reducing mental capacity in consequence of his terminal illness, his increasing dependence on Dr Simpson, the effect of the transfers on the disposition of his estate, the fact that such transfers were not in keeping with his normal pattern of behaviour, and the fact that the professor never consulted nor even informed Mr Quinton, his solicitor and friend of many years standing, except in relation to the purported gift of half the proceeds of the sale of the matrimonial home.

Those allegations were amply made out by the evidence, and were amply supported by the medical evidence. The professor's unquestioning concurrence with what Dr Simpson suggested was quite out of keeping with his normal disposition of wishing to know full details and reasons before parting with substantial sums of money.

The cumulative effect of dispositions between April 20 and May 11, when he was admitted to hospital, wholly upset the balance of the dispositions made in his will.

Undue influence had to be presumed, and accordingly the gifts were liable to be set aside on that ground.

In the result therefore all transfers on or after April 29 were void as being beyond the professor's capacity. The bank deposits transferred were held by Dr Simpson on a resulting trust for his estate and a letter of April 21 was ineffective to confer any interest in the proceeds of sale of Dancer's End.

Solicitors: Lovell, White & Durrant; Rowe & Maw.

Speeding evidence of one officer good for conviction

Cressland v DPP [Before Lord Justice Bingham [Judgment June 9]]

Evidence of the opinion of a single police constable who had carried out a reconstruction of an unattended accident was sufficient, when based upon his scientific calculations, from observations at the scene, to found a conviction for speeding.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held on an appeal by case stated by Iona Cressland against her conviction by Mr C. R. Seymour, acting stipendiary magistrate at Tower Bridge Magistrates' Court, who, on November 24, 1987, had convicted her of exceeding the 30mph speed limit, after rejecting a submission that there was no case to answer, and imposing a fine of £35, with costs of £15 and endorsement of her licence.

The court certified the decision involved a question of general public importance but refused leave to appeal.

Section 89 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 provides: "A person prosecuted for such an offence [speeding] shall not be liable to be convicted solely on the evidence of one witness to the effect that, in the opinion of the witness, the person prosecuted was driving the vehicle at a speed exceeding a specified limit."

Miss Rosalind Foster for the motorist; Mr Jeremy Carter-Manning for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE BINGHAM said that the motorist had been

driving her car when she struck a pedestrian. It was conceded that she was not to blame for the accident and the only charge preferred against her was one of speeding.

That was based on the evidence of PC Alan Killick, an expert, on post-accident reconstruction, who visited the scene after the accident and examined the car and tyre marks and carried out various tests.

He calculated, from damage to the car, that the vehicle had been travelling at at least 30mph and from other tests that it had been travelling at not less than 41mph at the start of the skid marks.

In his Lordship's view, the evidence of PC Killick was not solely that of his opinion because it also referred to objectively detectable phenomena and that prevented the judgment being made solely on the basis of opinion. The magistrate's ruling was correct.

His Lordship added that in similar cases it would ordinarily be good practice if details of the calculations made were disclosed to the defendant beforehand to assist in preparing a defence.

MR JUSTICE HUTCHISON, agreeing, said that the opinion of PC Killick was not the sole evidence, much factual evidence had been given by that officer and, indeed, the main evidence was that of the skid marks.

Solicitors: Amery-Parkes & Co; Crown Prosecution Service, Inner London.

No equality duty over non-EEC nationals

Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal and Another, Ex parte Bernstein

Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Lord Justice Bingham and Lord Justice Mann [Judgment May 19]

The Council of Europe equal treatment Directive (76/207/EEC) did not operate to oblige member states to observe the principle of equal treatment in granting work permits to non-Community nationals outside the Community who sought leave to enter and work in a member state.

The Court of Appeal so held when it dismissed the appeal of Miss Jennifer Leona Bernstein, a citizen of Zimbabwe who had leave to remain as a working holidaymaker, from the refusal of Miss Jennifer Taylor on December 19, 1986 (1987) Imm AR 182), of her application for the judicial review against (i) the dismissal by the immigration appeal tribunal on August 5, 1985, of her appeal from an adjudicator who had in turn dismissed her appeal from the Home Secretary's refusal on November 25, 1983, to vary her leave to remain in the UK; (ii) the refusal of the Department of Employment, of November 21, 1985, and March 27, 1985, to grant her a work permit.

Article 3(1) of the Directive,

made pursuant to article 235 of the Treaty of Rome, provides: "Application of the principle of equal treatment means that there shall be no discrimination whatsoever on grounds of sex in the conditions, including selection criteria, for access to all jobs or posts..."

Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke, QC and Mr George Warr for the appellant; Mr John Laws for the appeal tribunal and the Department of Employment.

LORD JUSTICE O'CONNOR said that there was no doubt that when administering the work permit system the immigration department was employing a non-Community national carrying out an immigration function: see rule 100 of the *Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules* (1983) (HC 169).

The department's policy as set out in one of the letters of refusal included the statement that the job applied for was not of a high enough level of occupational skill to match that set for the work permit scheme and that the salary did not indicate otherwise.

It was plain from the evidence that the salary criterion was no more than one factor in the department's assessment of the level of occupational skill required for the appellant's job. His Lordship said that there was no

evidence of discrimination on the ground of sex, but he tested against the contention that the department had breached article 3(1) of the Directive.

Looked at as a whole, the words "access to all jobs or posts" meant access by those lawfully within a member state, and had nothing to do with the immigration function of Government in its decision as to who might lawfully enter.

From *Federal Republic of Germany and Others v Commission of the European Communities* (Joined Cases 281, 283, 284, 285, and 287/85) (*The Times* September 17, 1987; [1988] 1 CMLR 11, 52-53), which dealt with the Commission's decision addressed to the member states setting up a prior communication and consultation procedure on the migration of non-Community members into member states, there was plainly no suggestion that the Commission was empowered to interfere with member states' own laws controlling immigration of non-members into their own country, and therefore the Directive did not apply to the appellant's case.

LORD JUSTICE BINGHAM, agreeing, said that all the reasoning and all the substantive provisions of the Directive were aptly applied to persons within a member state.

If by the Directive the Community sought to assert authority in the area of non-Community nationals seeking leave to enter and work in a member state, an area which was not explicitly recognized as within its jurisdiction by any article of the Treaty of Rome, Community practice would require a clear identification of that area in the recitals, and a clear statement why such an assertion of authority was necessary or desirable in the interests of the Community.

If that was doubted, the Court of Justice of the European Communities in the above case made it quite clear that at present the subject matter of the notification and consultation fell within the competence of member states, and acknowledged that the Commission could not prevent member states implementing drafts, agreements and measures which it considered not to be in conformity with Community policies and actions.

Thus, in the context of the present case, it could not be suggested that member states were obliged to observe the principle of equal treatment.

Lord Justice Mann delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Colin Ratson & Co, Hampstead; Treasury Solicitor.

Supervening event

J. Lauritzen AS v Wijsmuller BV (The Dan King) [Before Mr Justice Hobhouse [Judgment May 27]]

Where the alleged facts disclosed no breach of contract nor any breach of any duty of care owed by the defendants to the plaintiffs, and where a loss was not caused by any deliberate conduct of the defendants, the relevant consideration in determining whether a contract had been frustrated was whether the event in which the loss occurred was a supervening event, that is outside the control of either party.

Mr Justice Hobhouse so held in the Queen's Bench Division when determining upon the preliminary issues of whether the defendants, Wijsmuller BV, of IJmuiden, The Netherlands, were entitled to cancel the contract for the carriage of a drilling rig, the *Dan King*, made with the plaintiff purchasers, J. Lauritzen AS of Copenhagen, Denmark on July 7, 1980 under the cancellation clause of the contract "in the event of force majeure" and/or whether the contract was frustrated.

Both preliminary issues had to be decided on whether the loss of the Super Servant Two, the transportation unit which sank before the carriage of the drilling rig was undertaken, occurred without, or was caused by the negligence of the defendants, their servants or agents.

Mr Nicholas Leigh-Jones, QC, for the plaintiffs; Mr Anthony Clarke, QC and Mr Richard D. Jacobs for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE HOBHOUSE said that the facts pleaded in the plaintiffs' reply, if proved, were sufficient to rebut the defendants' case of frustration. The allegation was that the events surrounding the loss of the Super Servant Two were within the actual control of the defendants' servants, that the consequences of their failure to exercise proper skill were foreseeable and that they were reasonably so to fail.

Such an event was not a supervening event. An event did not cease to be within a party's control because it came about as a result of his unreasonable failure to exercise control.

Solicitors: Holman Fenwick & Wilton; Richards Butler.

Gatting book in more trouble

By Alan Lee

More trouble loomed for Mike Gatting yesterday as his publishers claimed to be bewildered by reports that he wishes to withdraw the contentious sections from his autobiography.

Contrary to the statement issued from Lord's on Thursday, shortly after Gatting's dismissal as England captain, Queen Anne Press insisted it had not been asked to remove the chapter dealing with last winter's Pakistan tour and had no intention of doing so.

Alan Samson, the managing editor, explained: "The first I knew of this was when I saw Mike on television, reading a statement which said his solicitors and ours were discussing the withdrawal of the chapter. I feel slightly hurt because neither Mike nor his solicitors have said as much to me."

"I last spoke to Mike on Wednesday. He did say he was now unhappy about the chapter and he was obviously being put under pressure. But there was no request to take it out. I tried to phone him again last night but could not get through."

"Mike and I have spent many hours together, going through this book line by line. We had both agreed the finished product was fine. It is never too late. We could still alter it but we have no plans to do so."

"I don't want a confrontation and I am sorry that Mike is in this position but we intend to go ahead as planned. I suppose he may disown the book and I would have to accept that."

The book is due for publication later this month.

Gatting bats on with exuberance

Mike Gatting played in a six-a-side cricket competition at the Honourable Artillery Company in London yesterday as part of his benefit season. He helped his team to beat a side led by John Emburey, his successor as England captain.

Before going out to bat, Gatting received a pat of encouragement on the back by David Gower, who has also experienced being sacked as England captain. Gatting hit three sixes, one of which smashed a window.

Other England players — Paul Downton, Derek Pringle and Graham Gooch — were also present. The Press were denied entry to the function, though not photographers.

England look to Emburey's lead

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

John Emburey, who might have been the England captain long ago but for incurring the wrath of the authorities by touring South Africa, finally got the job yesterday at the ironical expense of his dismissed Middlesex team colleague, Mike Gatting.

Emburey will lead England on his home ground at Lord's next Thursday, although his appointment is at present for one Test only. He comes into office at an unenviable time, while the game reels from the latest character assassinations, but it is a job Emburey has craved for years and he is complaining about neither the timing nor the tenure.

"I have got to get the team together after what has happened," he said last night. "We must all help to put cricket back on the road. Although I have only been given one game I hope to do well enough to carry on. I have made no secret of wanting to be England captain and I am pleased despite the circumstances."

Emburey, aged 35, has played 54 Tests and has been regarded as England's premier off-spinner for almost a decade. For three of those years, however, he was serving an international suspension, along with his inseparable friend, Graham Gooch, for playing in South Africa. During this period, the Middlesex captaincy, to which he was the acknowledged heir, passed instead to Gatting, who subsequently graduated to lead England in 1986. Now, the wheel has turned full circle.

To add to the ironies, Emburey was called to Lord's yesterday while playing in a benefit game for Gatting, to which he later returned. Today, at Turnbridge Wells, Gatting will lead Middlesex against Kent... with Emburey as his vice-captain.

"It might seem a strange situation but I think it has happened before and I don't see why either of us should find it too difficult. We've both served under Mike Brearley so we will do certain things in similar ways but we also have individual ideas about captaincy."

Emburey came very close to changing counties last year in an attempt to further his ambition to lead his country. Warwickshire offered him the captaincy of their club and he agonized for weeks before deciding he would stay at Middlesex.

He was the clear favourite for the post, although Gooch's name was also mentioned. The likeliest long-term replacement, if Emburey cannot justify a run in the job, is Derbyshire's Kim Barnett, and he will have been a

candidate for Gatting's batting place. If there is to be consistency of thought, however, that should go to Matthew Maynard of Glamorgan.

Lamb is by no means certain to keep his place when the squad is named on Sunday, though a last chance is likely; among the bowlers, Small, fit again and in form, should logically return, in my view for DeFreitas. Two spinners being an improbable luxury at Lord's, I would also add Capel to the party instead of Hemmings.

The only other change I shall again recommend concerns the wicketkeeper. Downton, a justified choice for the one-day games, is patently not the best when it comes to a five-day Test and lengthy periods of standing up to spin. Surely now is the time to introduce Russell.

Emburey insists he is not concerned about his own bowling form, despite the mauling he received in Nottingham. He is, however, very concerned about the frame of mind of his players, a worry he shares with the manager, Micky Stewart.

"The players have been very adversely affected by this week's events," Stewart said. "We have some work to do before the game begins. I am personally sad that a lot of the qualities of the game, such as mixing socially with the opposition, must be put back due to the world we live in, but it will be emphasized next Wednesday what is expected of every player."

The new management team, Londoners both, will not be dissimilar to the old. Emburey is more folksome and forthright with words than Gatting, yet in other ways more reserved. He has, however, always got on well with Stewart and it must be a united hope that their partnership is effective and enduring.

statements expressing outrage over even being linked with such stories. They were entirely cleared after meeting the selectors, as were Paul Jarvis and Phillip DeFreitas.

So, Mike Gatting alone has carried the can for allegations he denies. His wife, Elaine, issued her own statement yesterday in which she regrets that her husband "appears to have been made a scapegoat."

Four others cleared

The book is closed on the barmaid scandal. All four England players interviewed at Lord's yesterday were cleared of any improper behaviour during the first Test and a statement said: "There is absolutely no question that their selection for the England side will be jeopardized in any way" (Alan Lee writes).

Allan Lamb and Paul Downton issued personal

Gatting's disgrace leaves cricket in the gutter

By Alan Lee

If the men passing through the Grace Gates and into the meeting rooms at Lord's yesterday were bleak expressions, they were entirely appropriate. Their game is spending more time in the gutter than on the road; more weeks like this and the repair bill could leave cricket bankrupt.

It might have been a good week, one to lift the spirits. England, after all, saved a Test match they might easily have lost. Peter May's pre-season hope that we could all start smiling again, was close to fulfilment. Then came the slap across the face.

We have lost an England captain in disgrace. Four other players, apparently innocent of all allegations, have reported, like errant schoolboys, to the headmaster. The uncommitted public feasts on the salacious tit-bit but the admin-

istrators wait in fear of sponsors pulling out of a game unable to maintain the required image.

On TV-am yesterday, viewers were asked to give, by phone, their opinion of the Gatting sackings. In little more than an hour, 15,000 calls flooded in, 75 per cent of them saying he was wrongly sacked. Gatting, they chorused, was just

Time to play a straight bat, page 10

being one of the boys and the stuffed shirts at Lord's had dealt him an injustice.

It is, of course, precisely because he was being "one of the boys", rather than the demonstrably pure leader required, that Gatting had to go. The authorities had no choice. His departure, however, is not a self-contained episode; it begs a lot of awkward questions.

Who is to blame? If you were to

ask Allan Lamb, as he boarded a taxi yesterday after his personal hearing, you would have heard that it was the fault of the media. Lamb represents the players' widespread complaint that sections of the Press are unfairly hounding them. This syndrome, however regrettable, is unlikely to change, which means that if the image is to be cleaned up, the players must be more discreet and the management more vigilant.

It will be fascinating to see how John Emburey, the new captain, responds to the discipline problem. Already, tougher codes of conduct are being drawn up for his players because Alan Smith, the chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board, believes: "Events have shown that previous warnings about behaviour have not been wholly absorbed."

Privately, members of the board feel that Micky Stewart, the team

manager, has been let down by his players, that he cannot be expected to watch over them day and night and that his trust has been abused. Stewart himself, however, is now in a tricky position. Part of the reason for his appointment was to ensure disciplinary standards were improved — instead, whatever he may plead to the contrary, they have slipped alarmingly.

Lusty barmads and late-night parties are one thing; arguing with umpires and demolishing stumps quite another. There have been times, too many of them, when Stewart has been seen to be defending the indefensible. Perhaps, to be kind, this is not because he is ducking the issue but because, unlike his footballing friend Bobby Robson, he is not in a position to rule more firmly.

Stewart was appointed from a short-list of three candidates. The

other two, Ray Illingworth and David Brown, withdrew when it was made plain that their power would be limited, that the selection committee would remain and that the chairman of selectors would retain overall command. They were right.

The selection panel, made up of willing part-timers paid only expenses, is outmoded and that the England team should be chosen and supervised by two professionals, the captain and the manager, with all power for discipline invested in them. You cannot manage with one hand tied; equally, you cannot make excuses when everyone knows where the buck stops.

There are enormous sums of money circulating in cricket these days. Some of it, from sensitive sponsors, is at risk unless a more modern and professional attitude is adopted, both by the players and by those who administer them.

Blyth concerned about safety

By Barry Pickthall

As yet another competitor retired from the Carlsberg transatlantic race after his yacht had been holed yesterday, Chay Blyth voiced his unease at the dangers modern multihulls now represent to other shipping when sailed alone.

The lone yachtsman, who helped popularize this side of the sport when he became the first to complete a west to east circumnavigation alone 17 years ago, warned: "It is only a question of time before someone outside the race is killed by one of these boats. It was all right in the old days because the monohulls only did seven to eight knots and would always come off worse in a collision with a ship."

"But now the north Atlantic is one of the busiest shipping routes in the world, and these modern multihulls are speeding along at 15 to 20 knots. When sailing alone you cannot keep a proper watch, and if one of these craft hits one of the many fishing boats in fog off the Grand Banks, for instance, three-quarters of a ton of mast will come crashing down."

Blyth's controversial com-

